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Soviet Union

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BOGACHEV ON USSR MILITARY COUNTERMEASURES

LD271458 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1357 GMT 27 Aug 84

[Text] Moscow, 27 Aug (TASS) -- Vladimir Bogachev, TASS observer on military matters, writes:

The strong-arm methods practiced by the United States in international relations, and its plans to achieve military supremacy over the Soviet Union in individual spheres of military technology, have always ended in total failure.

At the beginning of the 1970's the United States began fitting its strategic ballistic missiles with high-precision multiple independently-targeted reentry vehicles (MIRV). The USSR persistently called on the United States to renounce deployment of "MIRV" missiles on a bilateral basis, stressing their extremely dangerous destabilizing nature. However, the United States ignored these warnings.

The fact is that 1 MIRV missile on a submarine has the capability of striking 14 targets at once, and there are 16-24 such missiles on each submarine. In the view of the Pentagon strategists, these new weapons fully conformed with the U.S. concept of a nuclear first strike, since they sharply raised the effectiveness of a sudden nuclear strike. In Washington the temptation to use these special characteristics of the new weapon to deliver a disarming blow at the enemy, including its missile bases, airfields, and submarine bases, grew correspondingly stronger.

However, the U.S. monopoly on MIRV missiles did not last long. One of the Soviet Union's most important foreign policy tenets is that parity -- the approximate balance of military might between the USSR and the United States, the Warsaw Pact and NATO -- is a reliable guarantee of peace. In no circumstances will the Soviet Union permit it to be upset.

The measures adopted by the Soviet Union to ensure the security of the socialist countries, have led to MIRV's also being deployed in Soviet strategic missile forces.

Washington started to portray the elimination of the U.S. monopoly of MIRV's as a "new Soviet military threat." Those same U.S. politicians who at the end of the 1960's fought so zealously for the deployemnt of "MIRV" warheads raised a hullaballoo about the "vulnerability" of the U.S. land-based intercontinental ballistic missiles. The U.S. leaders, including such a "hawk" as former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger, started to express regret over their own decision on MIRV missiles. People began to talk in America about the "United States's window of vulnerability," which had allegedly arisen as a result of the measures taken by the Soviet Union in response to the appearance of U.S. MIRV missiles.

In recent years, the United States has pressed ahead with the program of creating new types of offensive weapons, including air-, sea-, and land-based long-range cruise missiles. Striving to avert further destabilization of the military-political situation in the world, the Soviet Union has repeatedly proposed to the U.S. Administration that an agreement be reached on banning cruise missiles. However, Washington has invariably rejected the Soviet proposals.

Having adopted a program, unprecedented in scale, of producing cruise missiles, Washington hoped with the aid of this "wonder weapon" to exert pressure on the socialist countries and also to try to force the Soviet Union to embark on unproductive defense expenditure against these new U.S. offensive systems.

The American calculations on gaining military advantages over the Soviet Union have again burst like a soap bubble. The USSR Ministry of Defense has announced that successful tests of long-range ground-based cruise missiles are currently being conducted in the Soviet Union.

It is not to be excluded that a campaign will shortly be mounted in the United States about another "window of vulnerability" from the Soviet cruise missiles, about the need to allocate fresh gigantic sums for the creation of costly American territorial defense against these armaments.

The concept of U.S. military superiority and the absurd thesis of guaranteeing peace by means of an unrestrained buildup of American military power have also been thoroughly discredited. The arms race only increases the danger of war. But, as is evident from the U.S. Republican Party's new platform and from the latest statements by the U.S. President, Ronald Reagan continues to pursue the mirage of military superiority.

The Soviet Union will do everything necessary to achieve a real limitation and reduction of armaments. However, if the U.S. Administration continues to seek to achieve military superiority, the USSR will be forced in the future, too, to take retaliatory measures to redress the balance [otvetnyye mery k sokhraneniyu ravnovesiya].

CHERNENKO SUPPORT OF NUCLEAR-FREE ZONES STRESSED

LD280229 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2200 GMT 27 Aug 84

[Text] For 2 days, August 27 and 28, the heads of state of 14 countries and territories in the South Pacific are conferring on the island of Tuvalu on setting up a nuclear-free zone in that part of the world. Commentary now is by our military affairs observer Aleksey Vasilyev, and here is what he writes.

The movement to set up nuclear-free zones in various parts of the world is assuming an ever-increasing scale. It has already brought about a treaty signed by more than 20 Latin American states, the Tlateloco Treaty, banning nuclear weapons in the area. Growing effort is being made to proclaim as nuclear-free zones such areas as Africa, the Indian Ocean, northern Europe, the Balkans, the Middle East, the Mediterranean, and the North Atlantic.

The Soviet Union welcomes and supports this movement. This was reaffirmed last Saturday by the Soviet leader Konstantin Chernenko in his answers to a letter from an international conference on nuclear-free zones. Chairman Chernenko said that Soviet policy is fully consonant with the noble aspirations of the participants in the movement. The Soviet leader said that the USSR has unilaterally pledged not to be the first to use nuclear weapons. He also reminded the participants in the conference that the USSR wouldn't use nuclear weapons against countries that refused to produce or to acquire such weapons, and that don't have the weapons on their territory. It is easy to picture how much tension would be reduced and trust would strengthen between nations, Chairman Cherenko stressed, if the Soviet example were followed by the other countries that have nuclear weapons.

In the meantime, the other nuclear powers, primarily the United States, are obviously unwilling to take such a pledge, a pledge which would lift the threat of nuclear disaster from the human race. The U.S. Administration has even refused to discuss the Soviet proposal to rid Europe of nuclear arms, both medium-range and tactical. The Reagan administration also rejects all plans for creating nuclear-free zones in the world. It thus rejects the idea of setting up such a zone in the South Pacific, an idea being discussed at the 14-nation conference on the island of Tuvalu.

The conference is considering a proposal from the Australian Government to ban the deployment and testing of nuclear weapons in the Southwestern Pacific. This discussion is of special importance in light of a recent decision by New Zealand to ban American warships carrying nuclear arms from its ports, as well as in light of similar measures taken by other states in the region: Fiji, Vanuatu, the Solomon Islands, and Papua New Guinea.

The stubborn desire of the Reagan administration to prevent setting up nuclear-free zones in the South Pacific and in other parts of the world reflects the administration's line to step up nuclear confrontation and prepare for nuclear war. The creation of nuclear-free zones is an important direction in the struggle of nations to promote security, said Chairman Chernenko in his answer to an address from the international conference on nuclear-free zones, an answer that was published on Saturday. Such zones are not a utopia. Efforts in this direction have already produced some results. It is necessary, the Soviet leader emphasized, to multiply the efforts in all directions in order, step by step, to clear the face of the earth of the nuclear smallpox.

PERLE REMARKS ON NUCLEAR-FREE ZONES EVALUATED

LD250801 Moscow TASS in English 0533 GMT 25 Aug 84

[Text] Moscow August 25 TASS -- A strange press conference was held in Helsinki the other day, the newspaper PRAVDA points out. Addressing the press conference, Richard Perle, U.S. assistant secretary of defence, who was on a private visit, said, among other things, that talk of creating a nuclear-free zone in Nordic Europe is nonsensical and totally absurd (sic).

Thus, to Richard Perle the opinion of hundreds of thousands, if not millions, of inhabitants of the European Nordic countries, who explicitly declared and continue declaring their wish to strengthen security in that part of the world, means nothing. Neither does he care about the viewpoint of Finland's and Sweden's official circles and figures, who advocated and continue advocating the creation in Nordic Europe of a zone free from nuclear weapons. Perle could not care less about the resolution of the United Nations Organization, explicitly approving the idea of such zones.

Yet Richard Perle touched upon not only this subject, the newspaper notes. He went so far as to urge the Nordic countries to....limit their trade and economic relations with the USSR. Even the usually calm Nordic people evaluated this statement as outrageous interference in their affairs, as an attempt at "gearing" that region to the attempts of the White House at putting up an iron curtain of bans and sanctions in the way of the development of international trade, at regulating trade in such a way as only to suit the interests of the United States.

The tone of Richard Perle's statements at the press conference was truly strange and unacceptable, albeit on the other side of the Atlantic it has, apparently, become a standard.

U.S. ACCUSATION OF ACCORDS VIOLATIONS REBUTTED

LD241716 Moscow TASS in English 1652 GMT 24 Aug 84

[Text] Washington August 24 TASS -- TASS correspondent Igor Ignatyev reports:

The Reagan administration has no intention of giving up its policy of slander and misinformation with regard to the Soviet Union. In an interview to the CNN Television network, U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz, commenting on the platform of the Republican Party adopted at its national convention repeated Washington's slanderous allegations about the Soviet Union's violations of accords on arms control.

This is not the first time when high-ranking representatives of the U.S. Administration resort to such unsavoury methods to cast aspersion on the Soviet Union and its principled stand on matters of disarmament and at the same time to justify its own course aimed at undermining and disorganizing the entire process of curbing the arms race. The aim of this obstructionist policy by Washington is clear -- to ensure the United States military superiority by any means.

Since coming to power Reagan's administration has been taking steps to discredit bilateral treaties and agreements on arms control, accusing the Soviet Union of almost all mortal sins, it is said in a statement of the Center for Defence Information. But all these accusations and claims are either absolutely groundless or ambiguous or have already been resolved with the assistance of the Soviet-American consultative commission.

The obviously false character of the accusations advanced by the White House has been exposed many times even by those American politicians who can hardly be suspected of sympathies for the Soviet Union. Speaking recently at hearings at the Congress, member of the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations and the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence Joseph Biden said outright that the Reagan administration's accusations of the Soviet Union of violating the SALT-2 treaty are "absolutely groundless". In an interview to the NBC television network former U.S. President J. Carter had to admit that he knows of not a single case of the Soviet Union's violating any agreement with the United States on arms control.

U.S. SPEECHES AT ITALIAN SPACE ARMS FORUM HIT

LD242213 Moscow TASS in English 2049 GMT 24 Aug 84

[Text] Moscow August 24 TASS -- TASS commentator Aleksey Popov writes:

What can be done on trillion dollars? The opinion of Professor Lowell Wood, one of the creators of U.S. laser space weapons, is that the United States, upon spending this sum of money, will be able by the year 2000 to create a laser shield to cover the entire territory of the United States for protecting it from the "threat" of Soviet ballistic missiles. He made this statement at the current seminar in the Italian town of Erice on the problems of nuclear-missile weapons. The seminar is being attended by scientists of the USSR, the USA, China and a number of West European countries. Other U.S. representatives maintain that, besides, the creation of such a "shield" will also lead to "the establishment of lasting peace around the world".

It is reported that money for this system which, as its creators maintain, will give an opportunity to destroy nuclear missiles in space twenty minutes after they are launched, has already been requested.

U.S. scientists' speeches at the seminar have shown once again the real value of statements by the present U.S. Administration as to its desire to prevent the militarisation of outer space by reaching agreement with the Soviet Union. At present, on the threshold of the presidential elections, the "space wars" advocates in the U.S. top echelons of power sometimes are fond of talking about their being "peaceable" but that does not prevent Washington from continuing to implement its militarist plans, including those in outer space. Observers note that the speeches by some U.S. representatives in Erice in point of fact constitute another "show of muscle on the part of the United States" and publicity for dangerous U.S. military ventures in space.

For more than a hundred-odd years wars have been bypassing U.S. territory and even bring in showers of gold for the United States. The present U.S. Administration would like to continue to ensure its interests at the expense of the security of other peoples. The "anti-missile solution" conceived in the Pentagon is aimed at no means at ensuring "universal peace" but at creating a U.S. capability for delivering a first nuclear strike against the USSR with impunity. The plans are illusory but quite dangerous. The creation of a large-scale anti-missile system in the United States would tempt the U.S. strategists to press launch buttons on nuclear missiles, calculating on an "absolutely reliable shield" which would ostensibly protect them against a retaliatory strike.

The assurances by U.S. representatives in Erice that a space-based anti-missile system being created in the United States is not of destabilising character and would not lead to loss of life are intended for credulous people. Experts have no doubt that the creation of the system will seriously enhance the threat of outbreak of a nuclear war.

UN SPACE COMMITTEE APPROPRIATE ARMS TALKS VENUE

PM221151 Moscow TRUD in Russian 21 Aug 84 p 3

[M. Borisov article: "Space for the Good of Mankind"]

[Text] In recent weeks the whole world's attention has been closely fixed on the USSR's proposal to hold bilateral talks with the United States on averting the militarization of space. This honest proposal, which opens the way directly to resolve the problem by means of banning and eliminating a whole class of weapons -- space strike weapons -- has been made the object of an unworthy political game by the U.S. Administration, showing that Washington, in pursuit of the specter of military superiority, is not even contemplating reaching international accords on space weapons on keeping space peaceful and free of any kind of weapons.

This is also evidenced by the U.S. attitude to the comprehensive efforts being made with a view to agreeing measures to prevent the militarization of space, or to put it more accurately the shameless blocking of such efforts.

At the June 1984 session of the UN Committee on Peaceful Uses of Outer Space -- a subsidiary organ of the UN General Assembly comprising 53 states, including the USSR and the United States -- the U.S. delegation openly boycotted the sessions which discussed questions relating to preventing the militarization of space, walking out of the auditorium in demonstration. Now, during preparations for the next UN General Assembly session, which will examine the committee's report on the work done, the Americans are threatening to walk out if problems connected with preventing the militarization of space are not completely excluded from the agenda of that organ.

As the basis of this negative U.S. stance it is categorically asserted that questions connected with the danger of the militarization of space belong exclusively to the disarmament sphere and, consequently, must be examined and resolved multilaterally within the framework of the Disaramament Conference, whereas the UN Committee on Peaceful Uses of Outer Space is allegedly "not competent" in this sphere.

Perhaps this argument is a reflection of the fact that matters are going quite well at the Disarmament Conference and that the U.S. representatives are cooperating conscientiously there with the other delegations in elaborating appropriate international accords? Nothing of the sort. As is known, it is the U.S. delegation which for a number of years has been paralyzing the work of the conference on the question of preventing the spread of the arms race to outer space and which has been frustrating all attempts to organize specific talks on the crux of the matter within the framework of that forum.

The U.S. delegation was the only one to vote at the last UN General Assembly session against a resolution proposing that the conference get down to such talks immediately and examine the USSR's proposal on concluding a treaty banning the use of force in space or from space against the earth. Finally, the General Assembly decision to involve the UN Committee on Peaceful Uses of Outer Space in the discussion of problems concerning the prevention of the militarization of space is one manifestation of most UN member-states' profound concern at the impasse that has developed at the Disarmament Conference in that sphere through the fault of the United States and its allies.

As a result, the U.S. approach to multilateral talks on questions of averting the danger of the militarization of space forms a vicious circle: One forum is rejected on the pretext that talks must allegedly only be conducted within the framework of another forum, and at the other forum there is open sabotage. Such methods are an attempt to achieve the U.S. politicians' chief tactical aim of freezing talks completely.

But perhaps after all the thesis about the "non-competence" of the UN Committee on Peaceful Uses of Outer Space to examine and resolve questions of preventing the militarization of space has some serious foundation? In response, a counterquestion inevitably presents itself: Is it possible in all conscience to cast doubt on the competence of a UN organ, whose title contains a direct indication of its responsibility for the peaceful use of space, to concern itself with the problem of preventing the militarization of outer space and its use for the purpose of unleashing armed conflicts?

Let us turn to the facts. In the 23 years of its existence, the UN Committee on Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, relying on the expert assistance of its two subcommittees -- the legal and the scientific-technical subcommittees -- drafted the foundations of contemporary space law, including the very important norms which substantially limit the possibility of military utilization of space. In particular, they formulated the articles of the Treaty on the Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, Including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies, which ban the launching into earth orbit and the deployment in space of any facilities with nuclear weapons or other kinds of mass destruction weapons on board. They prescribe that the moon and other celestial bodies be used exclusively for peaceful purposes and that the creation of military bases and installations on them, the testing of any types of weapons, and the holding of military maneuvers be banned. This committee also originated the norm banning the threat or use of force and other hostile acts on the moon and other celestial bodies and their utilization for carrying out similar acts against the earth, spacecraft and their crews, and also unmanned space installations.

As for the Soviet Union, it consistently advocates using all available opportunities and all appropriate channels, both bilateral and multilateral, to hold serious talks and achieve specific accords concerning urgent measures to prevent the spread of the arms race to and the militarization of space.

It is just such readiness that is absent from the U.S. stance on questions of averting the militarization of space.

If the UN Committee on Peaceful Uses of Outer Space is treated not according to U.S. standards but from positions of a sincere desire to keep space peaceful and free of weapons, there is a whole range of specific tasks which this committee could resolve in the very near future, coordinating its work then necessary with the Disarmament Committee. Thus, basing itself on the aforementioned articles of the Treaty on the Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, Including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies, the committee could elaborate a norm on banning the deployment in space not just of mass destruction weapons, but also any other kinds of weapons for use against targets on earth, at sea, in the air, and or in space. The ban on tests of any types of weapons on celestial bodies can be supplemented with a ban on such tasks in outer space as a whole.

There can be no doubt that at the upcoming UN General Assembly session an overwhelming majority of UN member-states will proceed from the fact that the UN Committee on Peaceful Uses of Outer Space can and must play its own important role in the common struggle against the danger of transforming outer space into a bridgehead for armed conflicts.

The forceful pressure and blackmail to which the United States is resorting will the sincere striving of the peoples to ensure that space always remains an arena of exclusively peaceful and creative cooperation.

USSR, U.S. PUBLIC OPINION ON NUCLEAR WAR VIEWED

PM231509 Moscow MOSCOW NEWS in English 19 Aug 84 p 5

[Article by N.P. Popov, senior researcher at USSR Academy of Sciences States of America and Canada Institute: "Children, Adults and the Bomb"]

[Text] "I am scared at night. I think a nuclear bomb is going to blow me up." "I always keep thinking that I'm going to grow up to be an astronaut, but I think I'm never going to be one." Similar statements by schoolchildren are being increasingly often recorded by American psychologists studying the impact of the nuclear arms race and the growing danger of war on children.

For many of us adults, especially for those who are outside the "nuclear age" bracket (it will be 40 years next year since the first nuclear explosion), the realization of the danger of possible nuclear disaster has been gradually growing. Nuclear bombs and missiles, terrifying when they ran into dozens and hundreds, lost part of their tangibility when they came to be counted in thousands. Life in the postwar world teeming with "small" and "local" wars and international crises, against a background of the ebb and flow of confrontation between West and East, has blunted many people's sense of danger in Europe and especially in America which has never experienced the horror of modern warfare on its territory.

Psychologists believe that life in conditions of constant threat of general annihilation produces in many people a defensive mechanism whereby the perception of knowledge or information about possible catastrophe, about the terrifying consequences of nuclear war is consciously or subconsciously blocked. American psychiatrist Robert J. Lifton has dubbed this process "psychic numbing". In adults the process takes place with greater ease and at greater speed than in children.

It is perhaps in the nature of man to try not to think about tragic and terrifying things, as well as to forget, even if partially, the misfortunes and suffering of the past But however painful thoughts about a third world war may be, an ever increasing number of people are trying to assess its consequences even if on different bases.

While some people's attitude to nuclear threat has been formed under the impact of the broad campaigns for "nuclear education" conducted in Europe and the USA in the last four years, the assessment of others has been influenced by all kinds of arguments on the possibility of "limited" nuclear conflict, its escalation and de-escalation, about the allegedly very great chances of survival and the return to more or less normal existence. The many scenarios for war in the age of nuclear missiles, authored by Herman Kahn, have made the "unthinkable" nuclear war seem quite thinkable or even acceptable. Some US experts in military planning and civil defence think along the same lines and their concepts are intended to generate in the population a "healthy confidence" in tomorrow or at least the belief that despite certain losses the American economic machinery will continue functioning, food will be stored in the country areas reserved for residents of destroyed cities, the postal service will continue to operate and even credit cards and other financial documents will remain valid.

Nevertheless, the attempts to bill nuclear disaster as an unavoidable evil comparable with natural calamities or economic crises (according to one US government agency assessment, "... a moderate level nuclear attack on the nation might reduce consumption to the equivalent of that of the Great Depression") have not diminished the fear of war either in adults or children.

According to the latest findings of psychiatrists and sociologists at the universities of Harvard and Michigan, the more children of all ages discover and think about the "unthinkable" the greater will be their fear that nuclear war is unavoidable and that today's children will not have time to grow up. Surveys conducted in Massachusetts indicate dangers of nuclear war and one-third of them think about it "often" or "all the time". Most of them believe that there are fifty-fifty chances of an outbreak of war and two-thirds think that chances of survival in such a war are "poor or nonexistent". Reporting these findings, PSYCHOLOGY TODAY cites statements of fifth-graders who are haunted by "nightmares about everyone except them being blown up by bombs, leaving them alone and helpless". Many pupils, polled in another study after viewing the much-talked-about ABC TV film, "The Day After", said they "did not want to survive a nuclear war".

Many children start thinking about possible nuclear war as early on as 5 or 6. A six-year-old boy says that he "... wonders every time he hears a plane overhead whether that's 'the war plane'."

Most researchers had not expected children to know so much about nuclear war or their fear of it to be so widespread. The mental images of some children, especially of the younger ones, are fightening graphic: "Big gray clouds, red warning lights, dead wildlife and humans, unnecessary deaths and bodies." The descriptions of others are striking for their fatalistic resignation: "The world in the future will probably be a chemical and nuclear wasteland. Culture will go back to the primitive age when you steal or kill just to stay alive."

The findings of Jerald Backman, a social psychologist at the University of Michigan, who has been conducting surveys among school leavers each year since 1975, show that the percentage of young men who say they are "often worried about nuclear war" went up from 7.2 percent to 31.2 percent in 1982. In addition, more than a third of school leavers agreed with the following statement contained in the poll form: "Nuclear or biological annihilation will probably be the fate of all mankind within my lifetime."

It is interesting to compare these findings with the views of Soviet school pupils. According to assessments made by a group of American psychologists who conducted opinion polls on this subject, schoolchildren in the USSR have an equally destructive vision of the consequences of nuclear war. "The entire Earth will become a wasteland," thinks a boy of 13 "All buildings will be destroyed... All living things will perish -- no grass, no trees, no greenery."

"You couldn't survive a nuclear strike," another Soviet schoolboy believes. "The nuclear radioactivity remains for a very long time. Even if a person goes underground, no matter how much he wants to live, he wouldn't."

The American researchers conclude: "The whole notion that the Soviet Union is telling people that nuclear war is survivable is wrong."

A remarkable conclusion.

Scared as they are by the thought of possible global catastrophe, neither Soviet nor American schoolchildren have lost hope that nuclear war can be prevented. 65 per cent of American and 93 per cent of Soviet children believe that it can, according to surveys. American psychologists explain the greater optimism of Soviet children by the fact that they are "very active in trying to prevent nuclear war." They joint international friendship clubs, for example, write letters to their peers in other countries and send petitions to NATO. "American kids," the researchers think, "aren't as involved, and there is more despair."

This, however, does not signify total passivity on the part of American children. Formed three years ago, the Children's Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament now has thousands of members in 80 cities. They mainly contribute to the antiwar movement through writing letters to the president. "Please stop making nuclear bombs. I want to live! I don't want a war, anyway. What's the use for a war?" Hannah Rabin, leader of the Children's Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament, has the following answer for adults who believe that children are naive and idealistic in their antiwar activities: "What does that mean? That you're being idealistic if you just want to grow up?"

Adult Americans, too, are asking questions about war and peace, about the causes of the growing threat to mankind, about whether there is a way out of the impasse. Among them are the 1983 school leavers who will be voting in this year's elections and the parents of today's first-graders "the Vietnam generation", as well as those who remember World War II and the atomic bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

They have not been worried over the danger of nuclear conflict since the war in Vietnam. More than 60 per cent fear that the USA will be involved in a war in the next few years. Two-thirds believe there will be no winners in a nuclear war. On the whole, war and peace and foreign policy are issues that play if not a leading than a very important role in the current electoral campaign. According to a CBS News-New York Times Poll, 39 per cent of voters named economic problems, 33 per cent -- foreign policy problems, and 20 per cent -- the increased danger of war, as being among the most important issues worrying them.

The Americans continue to see the Soviet Union as their potential chief enemy. The policy of recent administrations aimed at dismantling detente, at spreading the myth of the "Soviet threat", the rude rhetoric which describes the Soviet Union not only as a political enemy but as an all-embracing symbol of "evil" has nurtured a negative attitude towards the Soviet Union among Americans. The resulting fear, distrust and ill will are exploited by the right-wing politicians in order to kindle fresh fears and to justify new military programmes. The current buildup is for another novelty - space-based laser weapons in a bid to persuade the public that they have to be produced they are advertised as "defensive" and "non-nuclear" weapons needed to defend America from a perfidious strike by the Russians.

The public can hardly be expected to remain unbiased when it hears smooth propaganda incantations about the "perfidy of Soviets" in most situations involving the creation of new weapons sytems. Americans have been so long brainwashed about the Soviet Union always going back on weapons control treaties, and always artfully concealing this fact without a chance of checking up on it that many of them often go along with the opinion that there would be an even greater danger of nuclear war from the USA "lagging behind militarily" than from the arms race being continued unchecked.

When feeling uneasy people are naturally suspicious and this is cleverly exploited. Psychologists rightly say that before trying to soothe someone, especially a child, one ought to make sure whether the information drawn upon is correct.

Fortunately, adult Americans, though intimidated by the "Soviet threat" and often relying in their judgements on a hodgepodge of facts, fiction and corny prejudice still retain a fair amount of common sense. It is clearly common sense, desire of peace and concern over their children's future that guide Americans in the mid-80s in choosing from among the multitude of political doctrines, proposals and speculations, those positions that distance them from the nuclear threat.

Even at the height of the anti-Soviet campaign in the early 80s a majority of Americans backed the idea of freezing the Soviet and American nuclear arsenals.

With all the fluctuations of public opinion on matters of foreign policy, two other tendencies are becoming increasingly noticeable. Starting from the mid-70s, the right-wing and militarist forces pressed for getting "tougher in dealings with the Soviets" and for building up American military muscle first by speculating on "Soviet threat" and then by exploiting the end-of-decade international crisis. At the time, they managed to secure appreciable public support. In 1978, 53 percent of those polled favoured a "tough" stand in dealings with the Soviet Union and only 30 percent were for trying "harder to reduce tension with the Russians." Early in 1980 this correlation reached 67 to 20 and by the end of 1982 - 44 to 38. At the beginning of this year, 55 percent of Americans favoured a reduction in tension, with 26 percent advocating a tough line.

This general change of climate finds concrete expression in such a vital sphere of relations between the two countries as limitation of the arms race, especially nuclear arms. According to a recent CBS poll, 62 percent of Americans think that "the United States should try harder to reach agreement with the Soviet Union about subjects like controlling nuclear weapons".

The experience of Soviet-American relations shows that progress in disarmament largely depends on the degree of mutual trust and public support. Soviet leaders have repeatedly stressed the need for building up an atmosphere of trust in international relations. For this it was noted what is needed is a responsible and balanced policy on the part of all states, as well as appropriate practical steps leading in this direction.

The peaceful stand of the USSR and other socialist countries was reiterated at the CMEA summit in Moscow, in June. Its participants expressed the conviction that "if the principle of equality and equal security were to be strictly observed, the nuclear arms race could be halted and states could initiate real nuclear disarmament measures."

Major importance is also attached to the proposals of the socialist states on reaching agreement without delay on the complete and universal prohibition of nuclear weapons tests; on the prohibition of the militarization of space and the use of force in and from space against targets on the earth, and a number of other initiatives. Delegates present at the summit drew attention to the exceptionally important proposal on concluding a treaty on the mutual non-use of military force and the maintenance of relations of peace between Warsaw Treaty member-countries and NATO member-countries.

The first generation of children accustomed to live with the idea that the "unthinkable" destruction of civilization on earth is a probability are now grown up. They are intimidated and confused to a sufficient degree. One can only guess as to the harm done to their mental health. It is time to give them hope. Adults need hope too.

AFGHANISTAN-PAKISTAN TALKS RESUME IN GENEVA

LD251524 Moscow TASS in English 1506 GMT 25 Aug 84

[Text] Geneva August 25 TASS -- Afghan-Pakistani talks have been resumed at Geneva's Palace of Nations through the mediation of the U.N. secretary-general's personal representative Diego Cordovez. The Afghan delegation to the talks is led by the foreign affairs minister of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, Shah Mohammad Dost. The Pakistani delegation is headed by Pakistan's Foreign Affairs Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan.

DRA's Dost Interviewed

LD241822 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1430 GMT 24 Aug 84

[From the Vremya newscast: Interview with Shah Mohammad Dost, Afghan minister of foreign affairs, by unidentified correspondent in Kabul "on the eve of his departure for Geneva." Dost remarks in Dari with superimposed translation throughout -- recorded]

[Text] [Dost] Afghanistan's foreign policy is based on the principles of peaceful coexistence and respect for the sovereignty of countries and peoples. We decisively condemn the attempts of world imperialism, headed by the United States, to establish world domination.

Afghanistan plays a significant role in the Nonaligned Movement. All of this strengthens our international positions and increases our republic's authority in the international arena. The attempts of imperialism and reaction to isolate our country are failing. Afghanistan's relations of friendship and cooperation with countries of the socialist community, headed by the Soviet Union, are a reliable guarantee of its social progress, independence, and territorial integrity.

[Correspondent] Comrade Dost, what kind of settlement plan concerning Afghanistan is proposed by your government?

[Dost] Our government is continuing to search for ways to settle the situation that has developed around Afghanistan. We are convinced that the constructive proposals we have put forward create a good basis for holding talks to stop all kinds of interference in Afghanistan's internal affairs and create reliable international guarantees for the complete cessation and nonrenewal of this interference.

Unfortunately, not only is the undeclared war that is being waged against Afghanistan by international imperialism, headed by the United States with the participation of China and regional reaction, continuing, but it is intensifying.

At the forthcoming talks in Geneva in which Cordovez, personal representative of the UN secretary general, is participating, our delegation will display good will and exert its maximum efforts to achieve mutual understanding. We hope that the others will arrive for the talks with the same intentions.

NATO OFFICERS WANT CHEMICAL WEAPONS STOCKPILED

LD271545 Moscow TASS in English 1524 GMT 27 Aug 84

[Text] Moscow August 27 TASS -- TASS commentator Vasiliy Kharkov writes:

High-ranking officers of American and British forces in Western Europe, the London SUNDAY TIMES reported last Sunday, have launched a campaign for stockpiling lethal chemical weapons in Western Europe. The report cannot but give rise to alarm. NATO generals, first of all representatives of the Pentagon, are striving to drag new and large batches of chemical munitions into Western Europe in the wake of American first-strike nuclear missile weapons. In other words, they want to set the stage for deploying such barbarous weapons of mass annihilation as chemical munitions in addition to the nuclear missile place d'armes in Western Europe. It is difficult even to imagine the tremendous threat it would create for such a densely populated region as Europe.

Applications of chemical weapons there would not only contaminate vast territories but would also poison great masses of people, first of all civilians.

Already, the U.S. arsenals contain, according to the American press itself, 150,000 tons of chemical warfare agents. They total three million chemical munitions. And the Reagan administration has drawn up a chemical rearmament program that would cost ten billion dollars. Its core is the manufacture of an even more barbarous generation of chemical weapons -- binary munitions. The implementation of this program would greatly boost the American chemical arsenals. It is indicative that the Pentagon plans to station these weapons mostly beyond U.S. territory, above all in Western Europe where it is planned to set up a new network of storages for binary chemical weapons.

This is being done at a time when the Warsaw Treaty member states have made a concrete offer to the NATO countries on the question of ridding Europe of chemical weapons. Although nearly nine months have passed since the proposal was made, Washington and the NATO headquarters have still not given a constructive reply to it.

This obstructionist posture is dictated by Washington's generally negative approach to the problem of banning chemical weapons. Way back in 1972 the USSR and other socialist countries proposed the conclusion of an international convention to prohibit the development, production and stockpiling of chemical weapons and to eliminate them. But the United States has not agreed to bilateral talks with the USSR on the question and blocked the attainment of an accord on a multilateral basis at the conference in Geneva.

Who so? Having wisely used chemical toxins during its war in Indochina, the Pentagon has now assigned this kind of weapons of mass annihilation an important place in its strategic military plans. But don't those American allies in whose territories American chemical arsenals either have already been deployed or are planned to be deployed realize the grave responsibility they are assuming?

NATO'S ROGERS MAKES PROVOCATIVE REMARKS IN TURKEY

PM241354 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 24 Aug 84 First Edition p 5

[Own correspondent A. Filippov dispatch: "'Good' Advice"]

[Text] Ankara, 23 Aug -- U.S. General Rogers, supreme commander in chief of the NATO allied armed forces in Europe, has paid a surprise visit to Turkey. The authorities restricted themselves to a short press release stating that the NATO general's visit was of a business nature.

However, the Turkish mass media are nonetheless casting light on the aim of the general's visit to Turkey. It is being noted that Rogers particularly discussed the issue of the present state of Turkish-Greek relations, characterized by great tension that weakens the "defense efforts" of the NATO bloc allies.

It is also being said that the U.S. general, pursuing his favorite tactic of intrigues, did not miss the opportunity to again scare Turkey with the "Soviet threat" and offer a number of pieces of "good" advice. Provocatively urging both Turkey and Greece to violate the international agreements on shipping in the Bosphorus and the Dardanelles, h advised them, according to the Ankara weekly DIPLOMATIC PULSE, to "close" the straits to Soviet ships in the event of an exacerbation of the situation in the region. NATO headquarters, it seems, would not object.

Recently, the newspaper TERCUMAN notes, the United States, resorting either to the tactics of economic pressure or to various types of "good" advice, has been striving in every possible way to provoke a clash between Turkey and its neighbors and exacerbate relations with the Soviet Union. And that is not in Turkey's national interests.

SRV PAPER SCORES U.S.-PRC MILITARY ALLIANCE

PM270911 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 24 Aug 84 Morning Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Article in NHAN DAN"]

[Text] Hanoi, 23 Aug -- A dangerous new step toward further strengthening the U.S.-Chinese military alliance; this is how NHAN DAN rates the visit to Beijing by U.S. Navy Secretary J. Lehman.

The formation of this alliance is demonstrated by a whole series of recent factors, the newspaper's editorial notes. Suffice it to recall U.S. Defense Secretary C. Weinberger's visit to China and Chinese Defense Minister Zhang Aiping's trip to Washington.

The U.S.-Chinese military alliance is a grave threat to peace and security in Asia, the Pacific, and the whole world. The U.S. Administration does not hide the fact that the aim of the so-called "strategic cooperation" with China is to implement America's aggressive plans in the region. It is also noteworthy that after Reagan's visit to China, the White House believed it possible to create a front in the East aimed against the USSR and the socialist community. China is thereby striving to realize its expansionist ambitions in the western Pacific.

PRC PAPER CRITICIZES U.S. POLICY ON OCEANS

LD240841 Moscow TASS in English 0812 GMT 24 Aug 84

[Text] Beijing August 24 TASS -- RENMIN RIBAO has criticised the U.S. stand on the problem of utilisation of resources of the ocean floor. The so-called agreement on the extraction of ocean-floor mineral resources signed by the U.S. and seven other industrially developed is described by the newspaper as a self-seeking attempt to divide between themselves the riches of the oceans to the detriment of the absolute majority of the countries.

It is quite obvious that the agreement runs counter to the spirit of the principle put forward by the convention on the Law of the Sea under which the ocean floor and its resources are the common property of the whole of mankind.

ARKHIPOV MEETS RED CROSS-RED CRESCENT PRESIDENT

LD231540 Moscow TASS in English 1528 GMT 23 Aug 84

[Text] Moscow August 23 TASS -- First Deputy Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers Ivan Arkhipov received today the President of the League of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies Enrique de la Mata and had a conversation with him.

TOLKUNOV SCORES REPUBLICAN ELECTION PLATFORM

PM271257 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 25 Aug 84 First Edition p 5

[Own correspondent A. Tolkunov dispatch: "In an Atmosphere of Chauvinism?]

[Text] Dallas, 24 Aug -- The Republican Party convention ended its work at the convention center yesterday. In essence, its delegates, numbering over 2,000, unanimously and officially elected R. Reagan and G. Bush as their party's candidates for president and vice president.

Both the Republican election platform and the delegate speeches show that the party is now fully controlled by arch-conservatives and reactionary politicians, calling for a continuation of the "crusade" against communism.

Judging by the platform's text, the Republicans intend to continue following their adventurous militarist course in Central America, primarily against the sovereign state of Nicaragua, in the Near East, and elsewhere in the world. Washington also intends to follow a tough policy toward its NATO allies, "Twisting their arms," continuing to deploy Pershing and cruise missiles on the European Continent, and forcing upon other states the shortsighted policy of notorious "sanctions" and "embargoes" against the socialist countries.

The platform could not have provided any clearer evidence that the Republicans intend to continue talking to other countries only from positions of strength and superiority, and this completely exposes the hypocritical assurances about some kind of intention to engage in a constructive dialogue with the USSR, which have been coming out of the White House recently for election purposes.

The quintessence of cynicism was provided by the last plank of the platform, titled "A Secure Future." It advertises the administration's preparations for "star wars," which would supposedly "reduce the Soviet Union's ability to threaten us with nuclear weapons." In this way, deceiving its own people, the White House is planning to develop the potential for delivering a first strike. It is, therefore, not surprising that the platform does not contain a single word about whether or not Washington intends to conduct talks on halting the arms race in space, nor about the slightest constructive initiative on its part on the disarmament problem.

Judging by the text of the platform, domestically the administration intends to continue its antipeople and antitrade union course, aimed at further sharp cutbacks in social programs and at depriving the working people of the rights they gained as a result of a prolonged and persistent struggle.

R. Reagan and G. Bush delivered speeches to the convention delegates on the last day of its work. They again resorted to the rhetoric of the "cold war," affirming their intention to continue implementing the course of attaining nuclear superiority and gunboat diplomacy against sovereign states.

Mass protest demonstrations were still raging in the city's main streets at the moment when the Republicans were nominating their candidates. On White House orders they were dispersed by reinforced police details. More than 100 persons were arrested.

KUDRYAVTSEV HITS PLATFORM'S ANTI-SOVIET LINE

PM271325 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 25 Aug 84 Morning Edition p 5

[Vladimir Kudryavtsev article under the rubric "Political Observer's Opinion?: "Doctrine of Adventurism"]

[Text] It is hard to imagine a more cynical document expounding state policy than the recently published election platform of the currently ruling U.S. Republican Party at its convention in Dallas. The aggressive hegemonism of the United States has never been depicted with such frankness and effrontery as it has been by the authors of this platform. The United States must completely rule the world. This is the theme that suffuses this entire scandalous document. And although in places there is a light sprinkling of words of peace, freedom, and democracy, that only makes the platform even more cynical and provocative.

One should pay heed to the fact that if one thoroughly scours this charter of impudent aggressors it turns out that everything it contains has already been published or stated before. Only motley statements or publications have been condensed, as it were, into the Reagan administration's code of aggressive actions. And if anyone outside the United States has been unable to form an impression from Washington's individual actions of the pernicious influence of its entire policy on the world, the Republican platform must now seemingly make even the most politically shortsighted figure or observer shudder.

The platform is imbued with savage anticommunism and anti-Sovietism. Even before, the Reagan administration through its statements and actions had whipped up world public opinion against the Soviet Union, the other socialist countries, and those states unwilling to blindly follow the United States. But now, after the publication of the Dallas platform, it is probably clearer than ever that behind the attempts by U.S. ruling circles to draw the entire world's attention to the so-called "Soviet danger" there lies the desire to subordinate the developing and nonaligned countries to its diktat, to put an end to their political independence, to make them the prey of the multinational corporations, and where that is successful, to turn them into "cannon fodder" for the war under preparation against the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries.

Indeed the platform approved by the Republicans in Dallas not only declares for the retention of all U.S. military bases and garrisons in other countries, including South Korea, Japan, the Philippines, and the Indian Ocean, but also the creation of new ones where required by U.S. aggressive interests and plans. The Pentagon is already expanding its military presence wherever possible, for instance the push by U.S. naval forces into the gap that has opened up for them in the Red Sea in connection with the discovery of mines there.

The platform not only announces the expansion of the U.S. "military presence" in the developing world; it also envisages an expansion of the multinational corporations' spheres of influence and coercion [vozdeystviye]; moreover, it is hinted that if the developing countries want to receive any aid from the United States they must choose the capitalist path of development. The platform also contains a threat to cut off this aid from those developing countries which establish governmental control over corporations' activities or even encourage at all the development of the state sector in their economies.

The aggressors' pretensions also extend to the developing countries' political life. The platform states threateningly that the United States will attentively monitor the voting on certain resolutions and recommendations in the United Nations and draw the appropriate conclusions with regard to countries pursuing a line not to the United States' liking. All this is aimed at scaring the developing countries, to which belongs the majority of votes in the international forum.

Does not all this mean that by adopting this platform the U.S. Administration is declaring war -- albeit unofficially -- on the developing countries and is turning them into the first casualties of the campaign against the mythical "Soviet danger"? Is not this like the inhuman means used by the Hitlerites during World War II when, to avoid further casualties, they drove captured old men, women, and children in front of them? Does not this really represent the conversion of the West European countries into the U.S. Administration's "nuclear hostages"? Do they not really want to do the same to the Asian countries, to which a special section is devoted in the platform?

Let us see what is being done in this region of the world. In the United States and in Japan discussions and debates are continuing about plans to cobble together a "Pacific community" which would be a Pacific version of NATO. At the same time the idea has been circulated that the problem of siting U.S. nuclear missiles must be resolved on a global scale, that is, including both Asia and the Pacific Ocean. Here, too, the "Soviet danger" is trumpeted, which, in Washington's schemes, is intended to provide it with an excuse for knocking together a military bloc in Asia as well as in the West and South Pacific -- under U.S. auspices, of course. And if one applies the proposals in the Republicans' platform to this region one finds that here too, as in West Europe, the United States is creating something akin to a "corps of nuclear hostages."

Let's start with Japan -- "the United States' truest ally," as has repeatedly been stressed on both sides of the Pacific. Japan cannot be compared with any developing country. Its economic indicators put it in second place in the capitalist world after the United States. That does not prevent Washington, despite the presence of a bilateral military treaty, from unilaterally pressuring Japan to increase its military spending. Why is that necessary? To defend Japan from the "Soviet threat"? Of course not! Japan is gradually being included in the aggressive U.S. schemes in Asia. It has already undertaken to defend maritime routes 1,000 miles distant from its own shores. And here is what the Pentagon says in its report to Congress published June 1984: "No U.S. forces based in Japan are intended exclusively for the defense of Japan. Like the U.S. forces in NATO, all U.S. forces in Japan are part of the system of the forward defense of the United States and its territories."

While discussions about knocking together a "Pacific community" are under way the United States is to all intents and purposes creating an aggressive United States-Japan-South Korea triangle. Moreover, it is by no means interested in the problem of the peaceful reunification of Korea. It sees South Korea exclusively as a weapon against the DPRK, that is, also a hostage of the aggressive policy in Asia.

The United States' main task in Southeast Asia lies in exacerbating relations between ASEAN members and the Indochinese countries as much as possible. It needs this to utilize the ASEAN countries in the struggle against the socialist countries of Indochina. ASEAN as a purely economic and cultural community does not suit the United States at all. It is striving to turn ASEAN into a military bloc to be used as an obedient tool of the Pentagon. As a result, contradictions are intensifying within the bloc and its primary goals are being jeopardized.

Moreover, one must not lose sight of the fact that the United States has two major military bases in the Philippines, that Thailand enjoys U.S. military protection [opeka], and that in Singapore (a supporter of ASEAN's transformation into a military bloc) as in Malaysia there are still armed contingents from Australia and New Zealand, whose military bloc with the United States (ANZUS) is currently moving into U.S. forward positions in the southeast sector of the Pacific, just as it is in the Indian Ocean too. In short, the United States is already trying to implement in Asia the tasks so brazenly formulated in Dallas.

The Dallas platform is not the yesterday of the U.S. policy of confrontation but the real today. And the developing countries, which the United States is striving to turn into the front line of its "crusade against communism" are the first casualties of it.

REPUBLICAN PLATFORM CALLED DENIAL OF PEACE

LD262201 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1400 GMT 26 Aug 84

[From the "International Panorama" program presented by international affairs journalist Tomas Kolesnichenko]

[Text] From 20 to 23 August in the notorious city of Dallas where President Kennedy was assassinated, the Republican Party convention was held. It was to put forward candidates for the post of president and vice president and ratify the party's preelection program. No one expected any surprises from the convention. Everything was known beforehand -- both the candidates to the posts of president and vice president, and the aims pursued by the Republican Party for the 1980's. And this is how it took place. To farcical noise and bustle, the bosses of American capital ratified the candidacies of Reagan and Bush. Nevertheless, when the draft of the election program of the Republicans was published, even seasoned American political observers and journalists were surprised. There had never been anything like it in the history of the United States. The 110 pages of the text of the document are steeped in unprecedented chauvinism, candidly aggressive hegemonism, and pathological hatred for the Soviet Union. Now Reagan's entourage is making assurances that the program was compiled not by the President himself but by some mythologically extreme rightist representatives of some southern states who, allegedly, went much further than the President.

But that is all simply a concession to public opinion. It is effectively impossible to go further than Reagan. This is proved by his cynical utterances regarding bombing the Soviet Union, outlawed by him. The Republican program is a denial of everything that is so dear to mankind; a denial of peace, disarmament, peoples' friendship, and the liberation movement. Take just the first section of the program. It is entitled "The Future of Our Foreign Policy." How do the Republican bosses see this future?

THE WASHINGTON POST wrote the other day: now the surrounding world is for us a big field for the making of a film in which the Americans are always victorious because they are Americans. This is the way of thinking that took us into Vietnam, and then into Lebanon. This is the thinking that explains the President's disdainful attitude to the Soviet Union. An impertinent attempt to set itself above other states and turn them into secondary ones, this is the quintessence of such a future as it is seen by Washington.

Primarily, this applies to the Soviet Union. Effectively the entire foreign policy section of the program is steeped in one delirious idea: to achieve, by any means, military-strategic superiority over the Soviet Union. At the same time the program exposes its inspirers.

Despite all the verbal juggling, demagoguery, and outright deceit, it does in full measure give an idea of the group that has now rallied round Reagan, extreme rightist conservatives with a narrow, provincial way of thinking, ready in a passion of anticommunism and anti-Sovietism to bring the world to the brink of war, to commit any crimes against the peoples for the sake of their selfish aims.

A set of stock propaganda phrases having nothing in common with reality and empty self-praise also distinguishes the domestic section of the Republicans' program. If one is to believe Reagan and his entourage, under the Republicans America is living in clover. This is far from being the case.

Start with Reaganomics, that is, the economic reforms, proclaimed with pomp by Reagan 4 years ago as a panacea for all the country's economic ills. They have turned out to be a flagrant deceit even for American democracy, which is saying something. Reagan started by trying to set in order the country's taxation and budgetary system, and he cut in the most merciless way the allocations to social needs for the poorest sections of the population and cut the taxes of the richest Americans. The apologists of Reaganomics today particularly stress that production in the United States has in the first half of 1984 increased by 7 percent. Indeed, to a layman such a figure will seem impressive, but the figures for this year are being compared with 1983, a period when the deepest and most prolonged economic crisis since the war, was reigning in America. If one compares the record figures with the pre-crisis year 1979, a quite different picture emerges. It turns out that in 5 years production in the United States has grown by 4.5 percent. Such are the real fruits of Reaganomics.

But this is not all. Under the pretext of combating inflation, the administration and big business cut the incomes of a huge number of Americans. As a result, the standard of living of over 35 million Americans fell below the official poverty line. Nothing like this had been seen in America since the time of the great depression of the 1920's and 1930's. This is perhaps the most notable result of Reaganomics. Reagan promised to reduce unemployment sharply, but even the economic revival has not helped. In the country there are now 8.5 million unemployed. Unemployment is especially high among the Negro population.

On the other hand the monopolies of the military-industrial complex, or death merchants as they are called, are getting richer. The record military budget of the United States guarantees them billions in profits. The Pentagon received almost all the allocations it requested for the deployment of the latest systems of American strategic armaments such as MX missiles, B-1B bomber and others, for the construction of military facilities in the framework of a wide-scale system of antimissile defense, and for the holding of tests of antisatellite armaments.

In Washington's calculations, the emergence of these weapons, in conditions of strategic parity, will place the Soviet Union in a tricky position. During all the post-war years the United States has repeatedly tried to outstrip our country in various types of armaments. Washington forgets, however, a simple truth. In the nuclear age the striving to achieve one-sided strategic supremacy inevitably boomerangs against one's own security.

BOROVIK: REAGAN JOKE, PLATFORM INSPIRE FEAR

LD232247 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 23 Aug 84

[From the Vremya newscast]

[Text] Over to Genrikh Borovik, secretary of the Board of the USSR Union of Writers.

[Begin Borovik recording] Hello, comrades. Last week an astonished world learned how the President of the United States amuses himself in front of a radio microphone. That amusement, taking into account the power and speed of today's communications, could have cost mankind its life. Judge for yourselves: The President of the United States, announces on the radio that in 5 minutes he will start bombing Russia. It is just as well that these words did not resound immediately around the globe. If they had!

The world was horrified by the prank of the master of the White House. But he himself, does he know what he is doing? Yesterday in an interview to a newspaper he only said one thing: It would have been better if I had not said it. He said it was all the fault of journalists: If it were not for them, this story would not have grown to the scale of an international incident. The statement, to put it mildly, is strange, and sounds just like the words "it would be better if nobody knew that an American atom bomb was delivered on Hiroshima" would sound. The President creates the impression that we are dealing with a first-grader who happens to have been naughty, but the overgrown prankster holds in his hands not a tube from which you fire crumpled paper pellets at your neighbors, but the entire nuclear and other might of the United States of America. It has become known today that U.S. congressmen are collecting signatures to a letter to Reagan in which they demand that he should publicly dissociate himself from his provocative statement. The letter says: Your remark, which you obviously wish to wipe off the slate as an insignificant slip of the tongue, inspires fear in the hearts of our allies and, unfortunately, confirms their worst fears.

No, it was not a joke, and not a slip of the tongue either; just as the Republican Party platform, adopted in Dallas, where the party convention is taking place, is neither a joke nor a slip of the tongue. It was elaborated by none other than lunatics and those from the extreme right wing.

Madam Kirkpatrick, the U.S. representative at the United Nations, made a speech at the convention. She pronounced anathema on our country, raising questions -- What would happen to Europe if the United States left? What would happen to Asia if it fell under the influence of the Soviet Union? What would happen to Central America if it became a Soviet satellite? The energetic madam thought up these questions herself -- so let her look for answers to them. We, without any questions, know very well what happened to Asia when the American forces invaded Vietnam; we know what happened to Chile when the CIA carried out a fascist coup there; we know what took place in Nicaragua when the country was a satellite of the United States. There are no elderly there because the average lifespan is 51, and there were no youths because young people were killed with American submachine guns, as future revolutionaries. We know what has happened in the Near East, where Arab lands are occupied by Israel, and what happened to Beirut, when an American battleship fired directly at it. So let us leave the questions thought up by Madam Kirkpatrick to her -- I almost said, to her conscience -- but I remembered in time that that word is in no way suitable here.

The Republican Party platform has been adopted. In it, the President's wild jibe has been developed and translated into a systematic call for an imperialist course in foreign policy.

There are demands that the United States should be stronger than anyone else in the world in military might; there is a proclamation of the United State's right to interfere in the affairs of any regions of the world, and so on. It is now mid-day in Dallas. Sessions are still underway in the hall where the convention is being held. That means they are singing pop songs; the sweating delegates are playing with balloons, dancing, eating hot dogs, drinking them down with beer, and behaving like schoolchildren on holiday: In other words an ordinary American party convention, the triumph of democracy!

It was in such an atmosphere that the platform was adopted -- a program fully in line with the provocative idea contained in the President's jibe, adopted to the enthusiastic roar of a crowd driven to a frenzy by free whiskey, bare-legged showgirls, and chauvinistic speeches.

The American press says that the convention was staged like a play in which every gesture of the actors was carefully rehearsed, down to the tiniest twitch of the muscles. That may be so, but it reminds me most of all of some bad and very dangerous show. Believe me: I have a professional knowledge of the theater.

ZORIN REVIEWS REACTION TO REAGAN BOMBING JOKE

LD252342 Moscow in English to North America 2200 GMT 25 Aug 84

["Moscow Viewpoint" by Valentin Zorin]

[Text] Although several days have passed since President Reagan made his sinister remarks about outlawing the Soviet Union and starting to bomb the country, the subject still continues to disturb world public opinion and, as fas as I can tell, American public opinion as well. Hundreds of commentaries, statements, and speculations have been made about the motives behind Ronald Reagan's so-called joke, a warped one at that. And yet people around the world are still discussing it.

I can judge the reaction of Soviet people to Reagan's remarks by the large number of letters I have received recently and that are continuing to come in from all over the Soviet Union. None of the people who have written view the President's tirade as a joke or even a bad joke. Common sense suggests that there are some things that just should not be joked about. For instance, could Reagan think of attending his daughter's wedding in a funeral suit, or offer a hearse for the wedding procession? If he did, well, we'd just have to question whether the person who was President of the United States is capable of sober thinking or whether he is responsible for his own actions. All those who have written me recently agree that President Reagan must have felt at ease at that moment outside the official framework of his post and therefore spoke in a way that was characteristic of his views and thought process.

When Ronald Reagan talks about his desire for peace, about wanting negotiations with the Soviet Union, about being ready at any time to meet with the leaders of the Soviet Union, that is when he is not the real Reagan but the creation of the current election campaign. Reagan's recorded hostile remark demonstrated to the world the real Ronald Reagan with his type of thinking and his level of thinking, not the Reagan conceived and designed for election publicity purposes. Reagan as a peace champion is an image that has nothing to do with the man who has broken all records in speeding up the arms race and developing programs to create more and more illegal weapon systems, threatening the existence of civilization.

When the organizers of the Republican election campaign got their candidate to speak words of peace they made him contradict himself, the Regan who from the platform of the British Parliament declared a crusade against the Soviet Union, the Reagan who dared to threaten to dump the Soviet Union in the garbage heap of history.

All that the President said in his first 3 years in the White House contradicts his statements in recent months, but the organizers of the Republican election campaign have not bothered to explain this inconsistency to either the American people or the world public.

And so there is no such thing as the new Reagan. He's the smae old politician with his back to the future and thinking in categories of the past. He is incapable of understanding that if he were to order the bombimb of the Soviet Union it would mean the end of civilization. There is a direct connection between the absurd and ignorant theories of so-called limited nuclear war and the candid remark the President made, thinking he was talking to his close friends with no one else within earshot.

REPUBLICANS 'OPPORTUNITY SOCIETY' CLAIM ASSESSED

LD240347 Moscow in English to North America 2200 GMT 23 Aug 84

[From the "Weekly Comment" program by Vladislav Kozyakov]

[Text] Speaking in Dallas, President Reagan pledged a Republican-created opportunity society for every man, woman, and child. Among those listening to him over TV and radio there were probably millions of Americans who are homeless, unemployed, or hungry. For them Reagan's words about a Republican-created opportunity society sound most certainly like another bitter joke. And hundreds of American families who lost their sons in Lebanon and Grenada are also very well familiar with what an opportunity society really means for them.

What is most significant and truly alarming for the American people is the fact that the United States is now less safe than 4 years ago. As a result of the present foreign policy pursued by President Reagan, the Americans are actually deprived of the most valuable opportunity -- that is, to live without fear of war.

During the present Republican Presidency more than 500 Americans were killed or wounded in Lebanon and Grenada and nobody can be sure that the future will be without further American losses in hostilities abroad if the policy is continued because it focuses not on seeking peaceful solutions of international problems but on exerting military pressure and on armed interference in other nations' internal affairs. Under such circumstances the United States can easily be involved in a new Vietnam, either in Central America or in another part of the globe. Moreover Reagan's policy has resulted in an ever-growing threat of a nuclear war, which is equally dangerous for the American people and the peoples of all other countries. The President's conception of achieving a military supremacy to prevail in a military conflict is both unrealistic and dangerous.

The deployment of new American first-strike missiles in Western Europe has shown that the Soviet Union will not allow the United States to break the existing military balance and obtain a military superiority. The Soviet Union has undertaken countermeasures, including those with regard to the territory of the United States itself. In other words, the experience of the last 4 years has shown that Reagan's so-called peace-with-strength policy is leading to an increasing nuclear confrontation. It's obvious now that the President's assertions to the effect that his program of nuclear rearmament will promote arms control are absolutely false. In fact, the policy has completely undermined the process of nuclear arms control as a whole. And it's easy to imagine what will be the consequences of Reagan's policy if it is not changed. The realization of his projects, such as nuclear rearmament, first-strike capability, star wars, and others, would make any arms control agreement impossible.

The Republican-created opportunity society the President spoke about in Dallas provides for no opportunity for receiving stable peace and security. Actually, the continuation of Reagan's policy on the international scene would bring the American people and the whole of mankind closer to the situation like the one the Americans saw in the TV film "The Day After".

CHARIKOV CONTRASTS MONDALE, REAGAN POLICIES

LD272321 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1645 GMT 27 Aug 84

[From the "International Diary" program presented by Igor Charikov]

[Text] Walter Mondale, the Democratic candidate for the U.S. Presidency, has sent President Reagan a telegram in which he renewed his challenge to hold a whole series of public debates, to consist of six rounds. These elections, Mondale writes, are too important for the country to allow them to be turned into a competition between advertising agencies.

Traditionally, the election struggle between the two candidates begins on Labor Day, the first Sunday in September. But, judging by reports from the United States, both Reagan and Mondale have been attacking each other without waiting for the official opening of the campaign. In a recent speech, Walter Mondale severely criticized Reagan's final speech at the Republican Party convention in Dallas. By all accounts, he said, the President is suffering from lapses of memory about his preelection failures. He said a lot about his achievements but did not say a word about the country's budget deficit and the economic slump. Walter Mondale also said that during Reagan's tenure the world had become less safe. The present administration talks about the possibility of winning a nuclear war, about the infliction of preemptive nuclear strikes, and about the attainment of military supremacy over the USSR. Now the White House is also going on about star wars. Mondale described all this as a dangerous foreign policy course.

At first glance the pronouncements by the Democratic Party candidate are very positive. He appears to be against the arms race and for the resumption of a dialogue with the Soviet Union. These words are, unquestionably, winning him the support of those American voters who are tired of fearing a possible nuclear war and of the economic problems within the country. However, in the history of U.S. political affairs, it is difficult to recall a time when election promises were honored and election platforms became the basis of the administration's domestic and foreign policy. In general, let's wait and see.

For the time being, let us return to the Repulicans' election platform, which was recently adopted at the Dallas convention. This document, like Reagan's final speech, expresses full and unreserved support for Israel. UPI reports from Washington that the question of U.S. economic and military aid to Israel will be one of the key questions in the election campaign. According to information received from Tel Aviv, Israel intends to present Washington with new and even more sizable demands. According to the agency, the total value of military and economic assistance will come to about $3 billion during the next fiscal year. All of this vast sum will be granted to the Israeli leaders in the form of free subsidies. Ostensibly President Reagan objects to this, but basically he himself has laid the groundwork for such a solution to the question, since throughout the 4 years of its tenture of power his administration has done nothing but encourage the ever-increasing appetites of the Israeli leaders.

ZHOLKVER COMMENTS ON EXPLODING PIPELINE PLAN

LD261957 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1430 GMT 26 Aug 84

[From the Vremya newscast; commentary by political observer Aleksandr Zholkver]

[Text] Hello, comrades. In politics there occur coincidences whose timing is a matter of chance but whose nature conforms to regular patterns. That is what happened at the end of last week. From Moscow a call for peaceful coexistence and cooperation between states with different social systems, for strengthening their security and trust in relations between them, and for the removal of the threat of nuclear war, rang out again. It is precisely this which is the theme of Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko's address to Japanese readers in the collection of his works, and of his reply to the appeal from the international conference on nuclear-free zones.

And what do we hear at the same time from the other side of the ocean? The Republican Party convention, which has just ended, has adopted a foreign policy platform proclaiming the supremacy of the United States in a world which ought to be American, or, at least, Americanized. In this direction totally specific measures are being undertaken. The United States is stepping up the creation of new types of offensive weapons, including long-range cruise missiles. Since December last year deployment of such missiles in some West European countries has been in progress.

In the past few days another Pentagon project has become known: the establishment of a pipeline filled with liquid explosive, in the West European NATO countries, along the borders of the socialist states. This is not the President's latest joke. The head of the Pentagon's European directorate gave quite a detailed account, giving the diameter of pipes for this structure and the combat characteristics of the new explosive.

Thus, Washington is plainly continuing to pursue military supremacy. This is a dangerous policy, one with no future.

In the interests of guaranteeing its security and that of the other socialist states, the Soviet Union has taken the necessary steps. The USSR Ministry of Defense has reported that in the USSR successful trials of long-range land-based cruise missiles are now being carried out. Our country will continue to do everything to seek arms limitation and reduction, while at the same time adopting reciprocal measures to ensure that the balance of forces between the USSR and the United States, between the Warsaw Pact Organization and NATO, is not upset.

W. EUROPEANS PROTEST EXPLODING PIPELINE PLAN

LD271510 Moscow World Service in English 1310 GMT 27 Aug 84

[Viktor Ilichev commentary]

[Text] In the Middle Ages, bellicose European dukes who constantly fought with each other surrounded their fortresses with deep moats, which they filled with water. Lift bridges suspended on chains crossed the moats. Such a bridge was lowered if someone familiar approached -- for example, a crusader in armor -- and lifted to prevent foes from entering the castle.

New crusaders, the Western leaders who are willing to join the crusade against socialism declared by President Reagan, have suddenly brought to mind the feudal past. In Western Europe and other parts of the world they have built many fortress walls and military bases, dug deep ditches and trenches in the paths of neighborliness and peaceful cooperation among states and nations.

These warriors, in closed helmets with small openings for eyes and the NATO cross on their armor, have partitioned the European Continent with a fence of American nuclear Pershings and Tomahawks.

New they've invented another military obstruction: the exploding barrier. I mean plans to build a special pipeline liffed with liquid explosives along the border of Federal Germany and socialist countries. According to the NATO supreme allied commander in Europe, General Rogers, who will be in charge of using the devilish invention, it will be enough to give orders to the officer on duty and push the button. In West Germany the newspaper GENERAL-ANZEIGER, expressing the views of the government, asks with indignation: What is this, Reagan's new joke? Why does the United States so easily trample underfoot the vital interests of its European allies?

These are rhetorical questions. Doesn't the West German Government know that the White House has turned West European countries into hostages of its aggressive adventurist policy and that Washington's military maps and strategic plans describe Europe only as a theater of operation? In other words, it's a bridgehead for the first strike against the Soviet Union, the arena of a show called limited nuclear war, planned in Washington. West Europeans are protesting and comparing. Just recently the Soviet gas pipeline from West Siberia to Western Europe was stretched across the entire continent from the east to the west. It carries natural gas, a raw material and fuel for West European countries. Washington, and personally President Reagan, made unprecedented efforts to foil the construction of the line and deprive West European companies of advantageous contracts. These attempts failed. And what is Washington proposing to West Europeans now? Its own version of a continental pipeline, filled with liquid explosives. It is the strategic plan of the U.S. Administration to split Europe and (?corral) the whole world with explosives.

MOSCOW NOTES U.S. CRUISE MISSILE TEST PLANS

LD261203 Moscow in English to North America 2300 GMT 25 Aug 84

[Text] Recent reports say that the Pentagon plans to conduct three cruise missile tests early next year in Canada, where the terrain resembles the Soviet Union. This month the Pershing II missile was tested. Comments now by our military observer Viktor Sivakov:

The Pentagon intends to test the missiles whose deployment seriously complicated the European situation, increasing the possibility of a military conflict. What has changed since the missiles were brought to Europe? The new American missiles are strategic with regard to the Soviet Union because now the United States can reach this country's crucial centers in just 8 to 10 minutes. Each of those missiles has a warhead that is a lot more powerful and destructive than the American Hiroshima bomb. The deployment of those missiles in close proximity to Soviet territory forced the Soviet leadership to take the necessary countermeasures. The most important of those measures was increasing the number of submarines with nuclear weapons on board patrolling the ocean close to the continental United States.

So a nuclear potential has been built in near proximity to the United States and it would take those missiles just a few minutes to cause as great a damage as the American missiles would that are deployed in Europe and targeted on Soviet territory. The balance of strength has been restored but on a much higher level of military confrontation. Are there any ways out of the current situation? Yes, there are, and the Soviet Government has made several proposals concerning those ways. First of all the situation should be restored that had existed before the American Pershing II and cruise missiles were brought to Europe. This would provide the basis for negotiating a reduction of the nuclear confrontation potential, taking into account all the nuclear missiles depolyed in Europe, not just the Soviet and the American missiles, as the United States is insisting, but also the British and the French missiles, which are also targeted on the Soviet Union. This would reaily be a fair, practical approach -- not just talk -- to the problem of ensuring world security including the safety of the American people.

WAR GAMES PRACTICED AT CALIFORNIA BASE VIEWED

LD251018 Moscow TASS in English 0945 GMT 25 Aug 84

[Text] San Francisco August 25 TASS -- Correspondent Yuriy Algunov writes:

Pre-dawn silence was abruptly broken by the roar of engines of heavy transport planes and the rumble of attack helicopters, numerous tanks and self-propelled artillery pieces followed one another ashore from ships which had approached the coast under the cover of darkness, and 3,000 hand-picked cutthroats from the U.S. Marine Corps and U.S. naval units went into action to topple the government of a country called "Ramazan", rout "the Popular Front for the Liberation of Ramazan" and establish there U.S. rule.

The name of the country where the American military have been sent on another mission to "restore democracy" is fictitious. The described developments are unfolding yet at Port Hueneme Base in California, the site of maneuvers aiming, according to a spokesman for the U.S. Navy, to practice operations to land surprise assault parties, quickly to crush the resistance of "rebel" forces and enslave a free people.

There is no country named "Ramazan" in reality. But there are Vietnam, Lebanon, Grenada and a host of other states whose lands have been trampled underfoot by "guardians of democracy" from the United States. Since the start of this century U.S. troops have intruded into the territories of countries in Latin America alone more than once or twice, and in each case the incursions have been preceded by their rehearsals, conducted in conditions similar to those of the target country and guised as "routine exercises". This is why local observers point out with concern that the maneuvers at Port Hueneme may become a prelude to a U.S. armed thrust into Nicaragua which refuses to bow to Washington's dictate and is marching along an independently chosen path of building a new life.

NASA TO RECEIVE FUNDS FOR VOA RELAY SATELLITE

LD222245 Moscow TASS in English 2236 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] Washington August 23 TASS -- According to the SATELLITE WEEK, the U.S. Information Agency has set aside for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration 1.5 million dollars to develop a gigantic communications satellite with a nuclear powerpack.

Officials of the Reagan administration have admitted that the satellite is intended primarily to relay transmissions of the radio subversion centres Voice of America, Liberty and Free Europe.

The weekly stresses that the reason for the heightened interest of the radio subversives in using artificial earth satellites consists in the difficulties encountered by the United States in its attempts to get other countries to host in their territories transmitters of those radio stations.

MORE JAPANESE REACTION TO CHERNENKO BOOK NOTED

LD271448 Moscow TASS in English 1411 GMT 27 Aug 84

[Text] Tokyo August 27 TASS -- Konstantin Chernenko's address to the Japanese reader raises a broad range of questions concerned with relations between the USSR and Japan, and it will have great influence over all aspects of the life in Japan, said Matsuhiko Kadiyama, editor-in-chief of the Kokusai Bunka Shuppansha Publishing House which had brought out collected speeches and articles by the Soviet leader.

The book received much attention in the country's political and parliamentary circles. The chairman of the parliamentary group of the Japanese Socialist Party, Kenjiro Kadoya said, "without any doubt, the publication of the Soviet leader's book in Japan is an outstanding event in Soviet-Japanese relations.

His address to the Japanese reader has aroused great interest among us, Japanese parliamentarians, and among all the Japanese. Its content is clear to any unbiased person."

His assessment of Japan's policy of three "non-nuclear principles," the Japanese socialist pointed out, raises profound emotions among every resident in Japan whose population suffered the horrors of atomic bombings. "I fully share Konstantin Chernenko's remarks permeated with profound concern for the preservation of peace and prevention of nuclear catastrophe."

Prominent political figures of Japan, former foreign affairs minister, chairman of the parliamentary Japanese-Soviet Friendship Association Yoshio Sakurauchi stressed the great importance of the publication of Konstantin Chernenko's book. He said in a talk with a TASS correspondent that Konstantin Chernenko's book gives a broad panorama of the Soviet Union's life, its domestic and foreign policies.

On Japanese-Soviet relations, specifically, on prospects of developing mutually beneficial business links and expanding cultural relations between the two countries, examined in the book, Yoshio Sakurauchi said, "The expansion of mutually beneficial economic and cultural contacts, which facilitates the deepening of mutual understanding and friendship between the peoples of the two countries, meet the interests of both Japan and the Soviet Union."

JAPANESE OPPOSITION TO ROK LEADER'S VISIT

SK280515 Moscow International Service in Korean 0930 GMT 27 Aug 84

[Commentary by (Nitturov) on Chon Tu-hwan's visit to Japan]

[Text] A joint meeting of members of the Japan-South Korea Parliamentarians Union was recently held in Tokyo to discuss preparations for the upcoming visit to Japan by Chon Tu-hwan, the boss of the Seoul regime. According to reports in Japanese publications, the main purpose of this joint meeting was to stress Tokyo-Seoul relations and to advertise the South Korean ruler's trip to Japan.

A resolution and statement adopted at the meeting declared that Chon Tu-hwan's forthcoming visit to Japan would be an epochal event in opening a new era in bilateral relations between Japan and South Korea. The resolution and statement were full of many spurious words, but they were unable and will be unable to eliminate the uneasiness of Japanese social circles.

Japanese democratic social circles are worried about the strengthening of ties between Japan and South Korea. These ties have been particularly actively developed in the military field.

In fact, numerous military delegations and military experts have been exchanged between the two parties. Leaders of the Japanese Self-Defense Force have participated at various military meetings. They have also participated as observers in the large-scale joint military mobile exercises of the United States and South Korea.

The military collusion between Tokyo and Seoul is part of the aggressive tripartite military alliance that has been fabricated by Washington in a bid to realize its Northeast Asian strategy.

The formation of this new tripartite alliance directly threatens peace and security in that region and has aroused great unease among the people of that region.

But does the U.S. strengthening of military ties between Tokyo and Seoul benefit the United States itself? The answer is very simple: Yes, it benefits the United States. In other words, the strengthening of military ties between Tokyo and Seoul benefits the U.S. imperialists, and particularly the present bellicose U.S. Administration, which has been desperately trying to aggravate the international situation, including the situation in the Far East.

For example, members of a Seoul delegation at a recent meeting in Tokyo, as faithful executors of Washington's policy, appealed to the Tokyo side to contribute more to regional defense and to assume responsibility for the 1,000-mile sea route in the Pacific. This is by no means accidental.

At this meeting, Seoul proposed expanding exchanges of military intelligence and intelligence materials regarding air reconnaissance and air defense activities in particular. Tokyo immediately accepted the Seoul side's proposal and agreed to hold discussions on this matter at working level.

The strengthening of military cooperation between Japan and South Korea has nothing to do with the interests of the peoples of the two countries.

The Japanese ruling circles' pressure on the Japanese people to accept the visit of the Seoul dictator to Japan has aroused an ever increasing protest among Japanese people from all strata.

According to KYODO, a committee opposing Chon Tu-hwan's visit to Japan has been formed in Tokyo. This committee reportedly comprises as many as 35 public organizations.

The Japanese authorities are also preparing to receive Chon Tu-hwan. According to an official report, the Japanese authorities' security measures for the visit surpass those for U.S. President Reagan's visit last year. Such strict measures by the Japanese authorities are by no means accidental. This is because the indignation of Japanese social circles against the visit of the dictator from Seoul to Japan is now growing with each passing day.

REPUBLICANS 'ENCOURAGE' JAPAN'S MILITARIZATION

LD271646 Moscow World Service in English 1431 GMT 27 Aug 84

[Aleksey Anatolyev commentary]

[Excerpts] Next we have a commentary in which our observer, Aleksey Anatolyev, takes a look at the foreign policy section of the election platform adopted by the U.S. Republican Party.

Japan for one takes a whole paragraph in the election manifesto. American-Japanese relations are called crucial for America's role in the Far East. In other words, Japan is reminded that it is looked upon as the U.S. policeman in the Far East and that the two countries share a common destiny. We welcome Japan's adherence to guaranteeing the defense of its territory, airspace, and sea routes, the document says. That is how the U.S. Republican Party encourages the Japanese Government and all advocates of militarizing Japan for actions to restore the Japanese military might and heighten tension in Asia and the Pacific.

Welcoming Japan's increased military spending, the authors of the election program urge Japan to contribute still more to the defense of this region. The Japanese hawks are being pushed not to yield any compromise and to strive to boost military expenditure still more in detriment to spendings on social needs.

The authors do not conceal that when they drafted the document they sought to please President Reagan most of all, and they could not care less whether the involvement of Japan in the arms race is against the Japanese people's interests and Article Nine of the Japanese Constitution. There is a widespread view in Japan that if the Democratic Party candidate wins the presidential election in the United States protectionism will prevail in U.S. trade policy. If the Republican administration remains in office, the Japanese authorities believe this should not be feared. For this reason, the ruling Liberal Democratic Party demonstrates close ties with the Reagan administration.

However, the election program does not say that the United States has achieved progress in trade relations with Japan and it is hinted that a still broader accord is feasible. In other words, the Republican administration will try to win from Japan significant trade concessions to guarantee the United States conditions for greater security and prosperity, as the introduction to the foreign policy section of the election platform says.

So the election program of the U.S. Republican Party lectures Japan on what it should and should not do. To follow American instructions means not only to follow the path of aggression and war, but also to act against the national interests of the country. This is precisely what the current U.S. Administration wants from the Japanese Government.

U.S., JAPAN TO HOLD SERIES OF MILITARY EXERCISES

LD241357 Moscow TASS in English 1244 GMT 24 Aug 84

[Text] Tokyo August 24 TASS -- TASS correspondent Sergey Logachov reports:

The Chief of Staff of the Japanese Ground Forces M. Nakamura has said at a press conference here that it is planned to hold a series of joint Japanese-U.S. military exercises in the coming autumn. They will take place in the north-eastern areas of the Japanese archipelago, which in the strategic plans of the Pentagon are assigned the role of a major place d'armes for aggression in the Far East.

In mid-September, about 1,500 officers and men from the 7th Infantry Division of the U.S. Army deployed in California will be transported to Japan. Together with units of the Japanese Ground Forces, they will take part in the training of combat operations which will be held on September 18-October 1 at the training grounds of the National Defense Agency of Japan in Miyagi and Iwate Prefectures. KYODO news agency points out that such exercises, held every year since 1982, are steadily gaining in scope.

In the last decade of October, U.S. Marine units deployed in Okinawa will arrive in Hokkaido, the northernmost island of Japan.

At the request of the National Defense Agency of Japan, they will train offensive operations with Japanese officers and men, and will share with them the "experience" of waging a subversive war. The local press stresses that the exercises will become a qualitatively new step in the expansion of the Japanese-U.S. military cooperation and another proof of the strengthening of the offensive nature of the Japanese Armed Forces.

Since the beginning of the current month, the exercises of the U.S. and Japanese Navies and Air Force units have been held twice in the Japanese waters. At present, the Pentagon and the National Defense Agency of Japan are completing preparations for even bigger military exercises in that region scheduled for September. From the Japanese side, they are to be attended by about 100 ships and many planes. The U.S. will send to the exercises an aircraft carrier, five destroyers, submarines, and auxiliary vessels. According to the press, the purpose of the exercises is the preparation for joint combat operations in the 1,000-mile zone off the Japanese shores.

The military exercises planned by U.S. and Japanese generals are of an openly provocative nature and will result in the aggravation of the international situation in the Far Eastern region.

JAPAN SPEEDING UP DEVELOPMENT OF CRUISE MISSILE

LD250856 Moscow TASS in English 0755 GMT 25 Aug 84

[Text] Tokyo August 25 TASS -- Japan's National Defence Agency is speeding up the creation of "SSM-1" surface-to-ship cruise missile. As Japan has no proving ranges, the first test launchings of missiles are to be held in the U.S. naval Point-Mugu proving range in California already in 1986, the newspaper ASAHI writes. The "SSM-1" missiles are to be adopted among the arms in the fiscal year of 1988.

The "SSM-1" is being developed by the "Mitsubishi Denki" Company on the basis of the "ASM-1" air-to-ship missile, which is in service in the Japanese Air Force.

MPR'S BATMONH CITED ON ELECTION CONGRATULATIONS

PM271147 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 26 Aug 84 First Edition p 1

[Text] To the CPSU Central Committee

Dear Comrades,

Allow me to express my sincere gratitude to the CPSU Central Committee and to Comrade Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, personally for the cordial congratulations and good wishes on my election as general secretary of the MPRP Central Committee.

Socialist Mongolia's Communist and working people infinitely cherish the close bonds of friendship and fraternity with the great Soviet people and have always viewed them as a reliable guarantee and decisive condition for building socialism on Mongolian soil.

I would like to assure you, dear comrades, that we are fully resolved to continue comprehensively strengthening the traditional Leninist friendship between the Mongolian and Soviet peoples and developing all-around cooperation between the MPRP and CPSU and between our countries and peoples on the basis of the unshakable principles of Marxism-Leninism and socialist internationalism.

I wholeheartedly wish the Soviet Union's Communists and working people great new successes in implementing the decisions of the 26th congress and subsequent CPSU Central Committee plenums, strengthening the socialist community's unity and might, and waging the struggle for peace and world security.

J. Batmonh

General secretary of the MPRP Central Committee and chairman of the Mongolian Council of Ministers

U.S.-ROK AGGRESSIVE EXPANSIONIST POLICY SCORED

SK261303 Moscow International Service in Korean 0930 GMT 25 Aug 84

[Commentary entitled "South Korea, Which Has Been Dragged Into Washington's Militaristic Policy"]

[Text] Our station commentator (Viktorov) wrote:

A large-scale exercise between South Korean and U.S. forces has been staged in South Korea. According to the Japanese paper ASAHI, the Seoul regime's Armed Forces and the units of the U.S.-South Korean combined forces participated in these war games.

Military cooperation between the United States and the pro-U.S. Chon Tu-hwan regime is increasing each passing year. Washington regards South Korea as its base and bridgehead with a view to carrying out its dangerous policy of [word indistinct] in that region.

Under the pretext of the nonexistent threat of southward invasion, Washington and Seoul are trying to conceal their policy of expansion and aggression. This can be proven by more than a few examples.

According to a data from a U.S. publication, in the large-scale "Team Spirit-84" exercise -- whose scope is unprecedented in recent years -- which was staged for 2 months early this year, tested attack operations with the participation of all branches of the Armed Forces of the United States and the Seoul regime. It is reported that there was also an exercise to have a large military force -- which would solve the task of the so-called Rapid Deployment Force -- land on the shore of South Korea under real combat conditions.

According to the Japanese paper NIHON KEIZAI, quoting an assessment of military experts, the "Team Spirit-84" exercise was an important stage on which Washington and Seoul actually tested the strategy with a view to eliminating facilities on DPRK territory by mobilizing the air forces and navies of the United States and the Seoul regime. This once again proves that numerous statements issued by White House officials are empty words. They have said that the United States defends peace in the Far East and only aspires to consolidate the defense alliance with South Korea.

At present, the Pentagon has approximately 120 military bases and facilities in Japan. Also, South Korea is covered with a network of 40 military bases. In the Far East, the total number of U.S. military forces has increased to 150,000. The U.S. Pacific Military Command possesses aircraft carriers, several score combat vessels, and (?combined aviation units).

According to various assessments, 700 to 1,000 nuclear bombs are deployed in South Korea. (?Not long ago), the largest storage magazine of U.S. atomic weapons in East Asia was revealed. A bulletin published in Japan by the Korea Peace Committee under the title "Danger of Nuclear War on the Korean Peninsula" points out that this depot of nuclear weapons is located in Kwangju City, South Korea. South Korea remains one of the last strongholds of the U.S. imperialists in the Far East.

For nearly 40 years, Washington has been using South Korea's important strategic location to (?always) stir up causes of cold war and tension in this region. South Korea is also being used as a U.S. forward base for its neo-colonialist economic expansion agains Asia's developing nations.

The Pentagon strategists are (?arbitrarily) staging the joint exercises of actually testing aggressive strategies, while intensifying war preparations in the Pacific region and pulling Seoul more deeply into their military strategy. This greatly threatens peace and security.

One cannot guarantee the settlement [chojong] of the Korean question or the extinguishment of the fuse of tension by wielding weapons or by Washington's imperialist ambition.

A correct way to consolidate trust and goodneighborly relations among the Far Eastern nations lies in the already-disclosed Soviet proposals and the DPRK's constructive proposals. These proposals are aimed at easing the dangerous confrontation on the Korean peninsula and reunifying the country -- which has remained divided for nearly 40 years due to the U.S. imperialists -- in a peaceful and democratic manner.

FRG TV FILM BLAMES UNITED STATES FOR KAL INCIDENT

LD240944 Moscow TASS in English 0930 GMT 24 Aug 84

[Text] Bonn August 24 TASS -- The Washington administration bears all responsibility for the incident with the South Korean "Boeing-747" plane, which deliberately invaded the USSR's airspace on an espionage mission. This conclusion is drawn in a documentary film shown on the West German ARD television network. The author of the film, Andre Liebik, is trying to reconstruct the events in connection with the South Korean plane flight. He interviewed a number of experts in the field of air communication, former officials o the U.S. CIA, and of the military radio intelligence service.

Haino Cesar, an official of the West German "Lufthansa" air company, who is well-versed in the navigation ensurance of civil aviation flights and is also familiar with the conditions of the international route on which the South Korean "Boeing" was to make its flight, said that, in his view, "the possibility of a navigation error is excluded." He said that the electronic equipment of such modern planes as "Boeing-747" practically excludes the possibility of a plane running off course.

The film devotes much attention to exposing the false American claim about an allegedly "unintentional invasion" of the Soviet airspace by the plane. Until now, the film says, the full list of passengers of the "Boeing" is concealed from the public. This makes one think that on its board could be persons on a special mission. It is absolutely mystifying why the American military ground tracking stations, which followed the flight of the plane, and the crew of the American reconnaissance aircraft "RS-135" did not even try to establish contact with civilian traffic controllers and report to them the dangerous deviation of the "Boeing" from its route.

Tom Bernard, a former official of the American military radio intelligence service, believes that the South Korean plane deliberately invaded the USSR's airspace on a reconnaissance mission, which was carried out on the instructions of the United States Administration.

The film "contains sequences of statements made by former CIA top officials William Colby, John Keppel, and Turner Stansfield [as received] as admitting enormous interest of the U.S. intelligence services in gathering intelligence about the Soviet Far East." The author presents a hypothetical diagram of cooperation of various United States intelligence services during the invasion of "Boeing-747" -- including a satellite, gro electronic espionage systems, RS-135 aircraft, and U.S. naval ships.

INDIAN DELEGATION HEAD COMMENTS ON ARMS RACE

LD271917 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1430 GMT 27 Aug 84

[From the Vremya newscast]

[Text] A delegation of public figures from the Indian National Congress Party is in our country at the invitation of the Soviet Committee for Solidarity With Asian and African Countries and for the defense of peace.

Rafiq Zakaria, delegation head and member of the All-Indian Committee of the Indian National Congress, said the following in an interview with our correspondent:

[Begin Zakaria recording in English with superimposed Russian translation] The friendly links between the Indian and Soviet peoples, between our countries, get stronger every year. Their basis is above all our common aspiration for peace in the world. It is well known that a huge nuclear weapons arsenal, constituting a real threat to the existence of life on earth, has now been built up all over the world as a result of the arms race.

All efforts have to be applied to prevent disaster. And in this connection, how frighteningly irresponsible is the recent utterance by President Reagan which, in effect, reflected the aggressive, man-hating direction of American policy. All people of common sense shuddered at Reagan's atomic joke. A freeze of nuclear arsenals can and must be the first step on the path to preserving life on earth, followed by their complete destruction, as proposed by the Soviet Union. The Indian people sincerely support this and the other peace initiatives from your country.

We believe that a peaceful future for mankind can be defended by united efforts. [end recording]

G. USTINOV ON TRIAL, SENTENCING OF AFGHAN REBELS

PM270949 [Editorial Report] Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian on 23 August 1984 in its Morning Edition carries on page 5 a 2,000-word "Letter From Kabul" by its own correspondent G. Ustinov, entitled "Retribution." Ustinov describes at length the trial of "35-year-old" Abdul Kuddus, his younger brother Muhammad, and other "gang members" who were captured at Diwali village 21 December 1983. According to Ustinov, the Balkh provincial leadership "repeatedly offered" Kuddus the chance "to change sides," but he "replied with contemptuous refusals." The author lists some of the "crimes" committed by the Kuddus "gang" between 31 July 1982 and 21 November 1983, writes about the "strict discipline" enforced by Kuddus and goes on:

"Hearing the angry statements of Balkh's citizens and their unanimous condemnation of the dushman's evil doings, I involuntarily recalled a recent speech by U.S. President Reagan devoted to the latest 'Days of Afghanistan', which Washington likes so much to organize. He repeatedly tried to prove that this country's people supposedly reject the revolution and that the majority of ordinary people support the 'brave mujahidin'. How much sacriligeous falsehood and hypocrisy are contained in these words!"

According to Ustinov, many of the "victims" demanded that Kuddus be "immediately publicly executed in the main square of Mazar-e Sharif without trial or investigation," but according to the statement made by the provincial party committee first secretary to one such delegation, and quoted by Ustinov, "the revolution cannot allow itself to be cruel and unjust."

Ustinov says that "the documents and eyewitness statements collected during the investigation prove that the Kuddus gang was operating on orders from reactionary circles in Iran. He lived there for 5 years, became closely involved with the 'Jamiat-e Eslami' counterrevolutionary emigre organization, and underwent training to conduct terrorist activity on DRA territory." After praising the trial proceedings, Ustinov reports that "some of the bandits headed by Abdul Kuddus, known by the nickname 'the bold,' were sentenced to the supreme punishment. The others -- to varying prison terms," and concludes:

"Let the whole people know that the counterrevolutionary rabble will not evade just retribution. It will befall each enemy of the republic sooner or later unless he has a change of heart and gives himself up."

ACTIONS OF HELICOPTER PILOTS SERVING IN DRA NOTED

PM221915 [Editorial Report] Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian on 19 August in its Second Edition carries on page 3 under the rubric "Dispatch From Afghanistan" a 750-word dispatch by its correspondent Lieutenant Colonel V. Skrizhalin datelined Konduz-Kabul and titled "Thanks to the Helicopter Pilots."

Skrizhalin writes about a stopover he made at Konduz Airport en route to Kabul and his meeting and conversation with Senior Lieutenant Sarvar Mamadzhan, the airport's military commander, who has been transferred to non-active duty following a disabling wound he received from a "dushman grenade launcher." He describes Mamadzhan's work in preparing a group of Afghan passengers to fly in a Soviet Mi-6 helicopter to Feyzabad and one old man's gratitude to the Soviet pilots for enabling him to fly home from Badakhshan, where he had visited his son's grave.

Skrizhalin goes on to write about the "air bridge" established by Soviet pilots between Konduz and Feyzabad and "such settlements as Darwaz and Koran Va Monjan, where they have to land on totally unsuitable strips for the purpose." According to the author, these routes were opened by "the squadron's best pilots" Lieutenant Colonel G. Salnikov and Major Yu. Guskov. He also mentions that the lead helicopter on this occasion was piloted by Captain V. Ayukin, who had been in Afghanistan "less than two weeks."

SOVIET OFFICER RECALLS SERVICE IN AFGHANISTAN

PM230842 [Editorial Report] Moscow SOVETSKAYA KULTURA in Russian on 18 August front-pages under the rubric "Authoritative Opinion" a 1500-word article by Hero of the Soviet Union Captain Nabi Akramov, student at the M.V. Frunze Military Academy, titled "Loyalty to Internationalism."

Akramov describes how he became an officer and, after graduating from the Alma-Ata Military Academy, was posted to Afghanistan. "No matter how you put it," he writes, "the path was not easy from the very beginning. It is difficult to serve in that part of the world. Bitter cold at night, heat that drives the men to frenzy by day, high mountains, very little water. And the main thing, of course, is the base and treacherous actions of the counterrevolutionary dushmans, 'maintained' by U.S. imperialism. It is difficult to comprehend what they are doing to their compatriots and the soil on which they were born."

The author goes on to recall the help he received from his fellow serviceman Lieutenant Abdyldayev and his sergeant regarding building up military character in his subordinates. "All kinds of fellows serve there," Akramov writes, admitting that he himself was "no angel" in civilian life. Having given some examples of how military service in Afghanistan develops the soldiers' character, Akramov concludes:

"I often remember them...as well as myself and that unusual land. We were all different, and yet we were all the same. We were different in character, education, and cultural standards...yet identically firm when it came to our beliefs. And our beliefs are based on feelings of love for the motherland, internationalism, and loyalty to the serviceman's duty which we performed, are performing, and will continue to perform with honor."

SOUTHERN PACIFIC COUNTRIES HOLD FORUM IN TUVALU

Nuclear-Free-Zone Discussed

LD271312 Moscow TASS in English 1234 GMT 27 Aug 84

[Text] Canberra August 27 TASS -- TASS correspondent Sergey Solovek reports:

A two-day session of the forum of southern Pacific countries opened today in Funafuti, capital of the small country of Tuvalu. It is attended by leaders of 13 countries, including representatives of Australia, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, and a number of other countries of that region.

The main item of the agenda of the current session is the proclamation of a nuclear-free-zone in the southern part of the Pacific. The situation in the region changed after the Labour Party took over in New Zealand. Advocates of the proclamation of a real nuclear-free-zone -- Vanuatu and the Solomon Islands -- are now strongly supported by the Government of New Zealand which announced its decision not to let into its ports and territorial waters U.S. and other nuclear-powered ships, as well as ships with nuclear weapons on board.

The AFP news agency reported today the prime minister of New Zealand, David Lange, has said that the conclusion of an agreement on the proclamation of southern Pacific to be a nuclear-free-zone will not come up against any difficulties.

Australia, which is performing the role of a defender of U.S. global military interests in southern Pacific, has to resort to manoeuvering in order not to lose its influence over the political situation in the region. Before the current session of the forum, the Australian Government revised its previous proposal on a nuclear-free-zone which provided for the refusal to acquire and stockpile nuclear weapons by the countries of the region, the banning of nuclear arms tests in southern Pacific, and of the use of the ocean as a dump for radioactive waste. One more item was added to the proposal: Any country can decide for itself whether to let into its ports and territorial waters naval ships with nuclear weapons on board.

Despite the opposition of the United States, the idea of a true nuclear-free-zone without U.S. bases, ships, and planes having nuclear weapons on board gains ever more supporters in south Pacific countries, including Australia.

Zone Treaty Urged

LD271524 Moscow TASS in English 1441 GMT 27 Aug 84

[Text] Canberra August 27 TASS -- Leaders of 13 south Pacific nations have unanimously agreed that their region should become a nuclear-free-zone.

The decision was adopted today at a session of the South Pacific Forum in Funafuti, the capital of Tuvalu. The leaders of the participating countries agreed to set up a working party of officials to draft a nuclear-free-zone treaty and report back to the next forum meeting in 1985. The treaty would prohibit the manufacture, use, storage, and acquisition of nuclear weapons in the zone and bar dumping nuclear waste there.

The leaders of the countries in the region said that France should press on with independence for New Caledonia where an independence referendum is set for 1989.

'DEVELOPING' USSR-NEW ZEALAND RELATIONS VIEWED

LD280922 Moscow World Service in English 1131 GMT 27 Aug 84

[From the "Moscow Mailbag" program]

[Text] (Andrew Martin), of Taranaki, New Zealand, asks: I would like to know about the relations between New Zeland and the USSR. Well, I would say that relations between our two countries are developing to mutual advantage. In the past few years the USSR has become one of New Zealand's major trading partners. We have established a joint fishing company. Both countries are studying the possibilities to cooperate in agriculture, fishing, forestry, and in the oil and gas industries. Also growing are contacts between public organizations. For example, a delegation of the Soviet Peace Committee recently visited New Zealand. Peace activists of both countries agreed to cooperate in curbing the arms race and to work together against the militarization of the Pacific Ocean. Cultural exchanges are also expanding. In mid-August, a Soviet book exhibition opened in Wellington, and as we have heard aroused much interest among the public.

I would like to add here that we in this country understand the desire of the prime minister, David Lange, to make New Zealand a nuclear-free zone and ban entry to American nuclear armed warships and also to renegotiate the ANZUS military alliance. If the Labor Government carries out his promise, New Zealand may well become one of the safest places on the planet. This country also supports New Zealand's decision to break off diplomatic relations with South Africa because of the vile system of apartheid.

PRAVDA CITES VNA ON CONTINUING PRC AGGRESSION

PM271457 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 26 Aug 84 First Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Provocations Continue"]

[Text] Hanoi, 25 Aug -- The Chinese side is continuing its armed aggression on the Vietnamese border, Vietnam's VNA reports.

Subunits of Chinese soldiers penetrated Vietnam's Lang Son Province on 19 and 20 August and attacked a number of villages.

On those days Chinese artillery subjected a number of border regions of Ha Tuyen Province to massive shelling. The local population suffered casualties and considerable material damage was caused. At the same time, the Chinese side has sharply stepped up its espionage and sabotage activity. A number of Chinese spies and saboteurs have been neutralized by the security organs, VNA reports.

REACTION, COMMENT ON THAI ACTIONS AGAINST LAOS

Laos Protests Occupation

LD271320 Moscow TASS in English 1302 GMT 27 Aug 84

[Text] Vientiane August 27 TASS -- The Foreign Ministry of the Lao People's Democratic Republic has issued a statement, expressing protest against the illegal occupation of a number of areas of the Lao Province of Sayabouri by units of Thailand's Armed Forces.

In the recent time, the document stresses, Thai authorities took a number of steps aimed at strengthening their positions on the illegally captured Laotian lands. Military structures and highways are under construction there. The strength of Thai troops is now double the population of the occupied areas. Recently Bangkok sent to the area the so-called "technical commission" in order to legalise the occupation and to continue kindling the frontier dispute between the two countries.

Bangkok's armed provocative actions against the People's Democratic Republic of Laos are the cause of the latest heightening of relations between the two countries. These actions largely imperil the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Laos. Full and unconditional withdrawal of all Thai military units from Laotian land is the only true way of settlement of the conflict.

The People's Democratic Republic of Laos fully respects Thailand's territorial integrity, the provisions of the Laos-Thailand communique dated 1979, but at the same time it is fully determined to defend its sovereignty. On this basis the government of the People's Democratic Republic of Laos is ready to continue the negotiations with Thailand's Government to resolve the problem which arose and to restore tranquility on the frontier, to improve relations between the two countries. That would meet the interests of the peoples of Laos and Thailand and would be a contribution to consolidation of peace and stability in South-East Asia, the Foreign Ministry of the People's Democratic Republic of Laos stresses in its statement.

Sheludko Raps Thai Aggression

PM280819 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 27 Aug 84 First Edition p 5

[Anatoliy Sheludko article under the rubric "Our Commentary": "Futile Attempts"]

[Text] For 2 and 1/2 months now Thai troops have been occupying a number of settlements located on Lao territory. This act of aggression is severely condemned by the international public, including the public in Southeast Asia. The progressive press, uncovering the true nature of these aggressive actions, not only points to their senselessness for Thailand itself, but to their pernicious nature for the cause of peace in Indochina. But the bellicose Bangkok circles do not calm down. Far from it. Day after day, to all appearances, they deliberately whip up the situation.

Let us recall how it happened. Thai soldiers burst into three villages in Sayaboury Province, encircled them with barbed wire, and shifted the border signs well into Laos. Drawing up their troops, the aggressors set about shelling neighboring settlements. Later, under pressure from world public opinion, the Thai side had to agree to talks with Lao representatives. But in mid-August, resorting to all types of subterfuges, they wrecked the talks.

It is not too difficult to understand what Bangkok is after. Led by the nose by imperialist and hegemonist forces, it is trying to complicate the situation in the region and hinder progressive movement by peoples who have chosen the socialist path of development. Many observers draw attention to the fact that encroachments on Laos' sovereignty and territorial integrity were sharply stepped up following visits to Beijing by high-ranking Thai delegations, and that they fit in with China's provocations against the SRV and the Pol Pot gangs' subversive activities against Peoples' Kampuchea. Undoubtedly it is no accident that the complication of the border situation coincided with the major American-Thai Cobra Gold-84 military maneuvers.

The occupiers, consolidating their positions in the occupied Lao territory, are using whatever tricks they can. They arranged a propaganda show the other day -- they handed over to the inhabitants of the occupied Lao villages...the road linking the locality with Thailand. That really must have "pleased" them. The farce, which was filmed, was needed in an attempt to whitewash themselves in the eyes of public opinion.

Futile attempts! The Lao people demand: "The occupiers must leave our land unconditionally. That is the only way that the problem that has arisen can be settled."

An entirely natural demand. People of goodwill and all who value peace cannot but support it. The Soviet Union fully supports the constructive position and peace-loving initiatives of the Indochinese countries, which are courageously rebuffing the onslaughts of imperialism and hegemonism. Alongside Vietnam, Laos, and Kampuchea, our country consistently advocates the settlement of the Southeast Asia situation and the transformation of that region into a zone of peace, stability, and goodneighborliness. The working people of the SRV, Laos, and Kampuchea draw new strength from the wide international support for their just cause, strength to rebuff the encroachments on their independence and resolve the day-to-day tasks of economic and cultural building.

PRAVDA CITES SPK ON THAI ARMED PROVOCATIONS

PM271429 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 26 Aug 84 First Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Rebuff Given"]

[Text] Phnom Penh, 25 Aug -- The Thai side is continuing its dangerous armed provocations along the Kampuchean border, Kampuchea's SPK reports. Thai warplanes repeatedly violated the PRK's airspace from 13 to 20 August intruding deep inside Battambang Province. At the same time, Thai warships entered Kampuchean territorial waters in the region of the Islands of Koh Kong, Koh Tang, and Poulo Vai approximately 400 times.

The border regions of Preah Vihear, Pursat, and Koh Kong Provinces were repeatedly subjected to massive artillery shelling from the Thai side. The local population suffered casualties and considerable material damage was caused.

Subunits of the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Army repulsed counterrevolutionary attacks.

VINOGRADOV ON INTRIGUES AGAINST KAMPUCHEA

PM280804 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 25 Aug 84 Morning Edition p 5

[B. Vinogradov article: "Life Has Returned to the Dead Zone; Reborn Kampuchea"]

[Excerpt] An upsurge in the economy and the steady development of all its sectors is typical of Kampuchea. It convincingly attests to the irreversibility of the changes that have occurred in the country, which has embarked on the path of building the foundations of a socialist society. A detailed analysis of the stage that has been traveled was given at a recent session of Kampuchea's supreme legislative organ -- the National Assembly. Speaking to the deputies, Chan Si, chairman of the PRK Council of Ministers, noted the significant successes in developing industry and agriculture. The country's food problem has been virtually resolved. The area sown to rice this year will be more than 1.7 million hectares. The achievements of the people's power in the sphere of developing national culture, education, and health care are impressive.

The PRK has been in existence for over 5 years. It was no accident that we recalled how the country began its formation as an independent, sovereign, democratic state that had chosen the path of socialism. After all, truth can be revealed through comparisons. Having been the victim of a monstrous political experiment, Kampuchea had been utterly destroyed.

At the cost of enormous efforts on the part of the people, and with the help of its faithful friends, the country rose from the ashes. But reaction, with the backing of the United States and China, is not relinquishing its plans to tear Kampuchea away from the fraternal alliance of the three Indochinese countries and is doing itsutmost to prevent it from moving toward the chosen goal.

Even now alarming news continues to come from the Kampuchean-Thai border, in particular from Battambang Province. Remnants of the Pol Pot gangs, with the support of Thai artillery and aircraft, are carrying out raids against peaceful PRK villages. Who is behind the bandits? The answer is straightforward: Washington and Beijing, which are urging the ASEAN countries into confrontation with the Indochinese states. The attempt to extol the so-called "coalition government of democratic Kampuchea" and the military aid given to the Khmer renegades are deadlocking the process of improving the situation is this region of Southeast Asia.

Fanning the myth of the Soviet and Vietnamese "military threat," Washington is increasingly openly gambling on resolving the "Kampuchean problem" by force of arms. This was also shown by the latest ASEAN foreign ministers conference in which U.S. Secretary of State G. Shultz participated.

But despite enemy intrigues, the Kampuchean people, with the help of their true friends, are confidently striding along their chosen path. Neither the cowardly raids of desperate bandits, nor the diplomatic intrigues in reaction's camp, nor the efforts of its patrons are capable of stopping the Kampuchean people in this onward movement.

USSR, PHILIPPINES EXCHANGE GREETINGS

PM270931 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 24 Aug 84 Morning Edition p 1

[TASS report: "Exchange of Telegrams"]

[Text] The USSR Council of Ministers has sent a telegram to Cesar Virata congratulating him on his reappointment as prime minister of the Philippines and wishing him further success in his activities. In a reply telegram, Cesar Virata expressed sincere gratitude for the congratulations and wished the Soviet Union further prosperity.

The telegrams express the hope that Soviet-Philippine relations will continue to develop in a spirit of good cooperation for the benefit of the two countries' peoples and in the interests of consolidating peace and security in Asia and throughout the world.

REPORTAGE ON USTINOV DELEGATION VISIT TO PRAGUE

Gorbachev Sees Group Off

LD271250 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1203 GMT 27 Aug 84

[Text] At the invitation of the CPCZ and the CSSR Government, a Soviet party and government delegation led by Comrade Ustinov, marshal of the Soviet Union, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR minister of defense, left Moscow for Prague today to take part in the celebrations marking the 40th anniversary of the Slovak National Uprising.

The delegation includes members of the CPSU Central Committee Orlov, first deputy chairman of the RSFSR Council of Ministers; Mikulich, first secretary of the Minsk Obkom of the Belorussian Communist Party; Lomakin, USSR ambassador to the CSSR; and Klokov, Hero of the Soviet Union and former chief of staff of the Jan Zizka Partisan Brigade.

The delegation was seen off at the airport by Gorbachev, member of the CPSU Central Committee and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; Talyzin, member of the CPSU Central Committee and deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; Rakhamanin, first deputy head of a CPSU Central Committee department; Marshal of the Soviet Union Kulikov, first deputy USSR minister of defense and commander in chief of the Joint Armed Forces of the Warsaw Pact member-states; and Stukalin, deputy USSR minister of foreign affairs; and other officials.

Among those seeing off the delegation was Zavadil, CSSR ambassador to the USSR.

Arrival in Bratislava

LD271731 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 27 Aug 84

[Text] A Soviet party and government delegation led by Marshal of the Soviet Union Comrade Ustinov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR defense minister, arrived in Bratislava today from Moscow at the invitation of the Czechoslovak Communist Party Central Committee and the CSSR Government to take part in ceremonies marking the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the Slovak National Uprising.

The delegation includes the following members of the CPSU Central Committee: Comrade Orlov, first deputy chairman of the RSFSR Council of Ministers; Comrade Mikulich, first secretary of the Minsk Obkom; and Comrade Lomakin, USSR ambassador to the CSSR; as well as Comrade Klokov, Hero of the Soviet Union and former chief of staff of the Jan Zizka Partisan Brigade.

At the airport in Bratislava, the delegation was met by Bilak, member of the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium and secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee; members of the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium Lenart, first secretary of the Slovak Communist Party Central Committee, and Colotka, premier of the Slovak Socialist Republic; Hruskovic, candidate member of the Presidium and secretary of the Slovak Communist Party Central Committee; members of the Slovak Communist Party Central Committee Presidium, chairman of the Slovak National Council Salgovic, and Army General Dzur, member of the CPCZ Central Committee and CSSR minister for national defense, and other officials.

Today the Soviet party and government delegation laid wreaths at the monument to the Slovak National Uprising in the central square in Bratislava and at the monument to the Soviet soldier-liberators on Slavin Hill. Wreaths were also laid by Bilak, Lenart, Colotka, and other Czechoslovak leaders.

Lenart, Ustinov Give Speeches

LD271751 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1630 GMT 27 Aug 84

[Text] The Slovak Communist Party Central Committee, the Slovak National Council, and the Government of the Slovak Socialist Republic today gave a luncheon in honor of the Soviet party and government delegation.

In welcoming the guests, Lenart, member of the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium and first secretary of the Slovak Communist Party Central Committee, stressed the historical significance of the Slovak National Uprising for the fate of the Czechoslovak people. This uprising, he said, strengthened even more the friendship and fraternity of our countries and peoples. The 40th anniversary of the glorious victory on Slovak soil is thus a common festival for the peoples of Czechoslovakia and the Soviet Union.

Dmitriy Fedorovich Ustinov gave a speech in reply. He conveyed to the Czechoslovak people greetings, cordial congratulations, and best wishes from Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko. While on glorious Czechoslovak soil in socialist Slovakia, the head of the delegation said we can feel the atmosphere of great nationwide festivity on the occasion of the anniversary of a portentous event in the history of the Czechoslovak people. This event will remain forever in the hearts of all to whom freedom and independence of peoples and the ideals of socialism are dear. The achievements of the working people of Czechoslovakia in socialist construction are inextricably linked with the strengthening of friendship and cooperation between our Communist Parties and socialist states. The hearts of the peoples of the USSR and Czechoslovakia beat in a single rhythm. This is well felt here, in Slovakia.

Soviet-Czechoslovak friendship, friendship of fraternal countries of socialism, is a great gain for our peoples. They are particularly important under the present complicated conditions of an aggravated international situation caused by the aggressive course of the United States and its NATO allies. The Soviet Union and the other countries of the socialist community counter this course with a policy of peace, elimination of the arms race, and prevention of war. In connection with the buildup of U.S. and NATO military preparations, we have been forced to adopt measures to strengthen our own defense capability. Comrade Ustinov stressed that the Warsaw Pact's Armed Forces are a reliable shield for the peaceful labor of our peoples. They have been, are, and will be a stronghold of peace and security in our world.

Ustinov Receives Medal

LD271742 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1630 GMT 27 Aug 84

[Text] Today on behalf of the Czechoslovak Communist Party Central Committee, Vasil Bilak, member of the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium and secretary of the party Central Committee, presented members of the Soviet party and government delegation with commemorative medals in honor of the 40th anniversary of the end of the national liberation struggle of the Czechoslovak people and the liberation of Czechoslovakia by the Soviet Army.

The leader of the Soviet delegation, Dmitriy Fedorovich Ustinov, expressed sincere gratitude to the Central Committee of the CPCZ for the esteemed award. In these awards, he said, we see a symbol of our common victory over fascism, a manifestation of the friendly feelings of the Czechoslovak people for the Soviet people and its Armed Forces. We appraise them as recognition of the great contribution of the CPSU and the Soviet people and their Armed Forces to the cause of strengthening friendship and fraternity between our parties, peoples and armies.

The friendship and fraternity of the Soviet and Czechoslovak peoples has been tried and tempered in joint struggle for socialism and peace.

On behalf of the Soviet delegation, Comrade Ustinov presented the Central Committee of the Slovak Communist Party, the Slovak National Council and Government of the Slovak Socialist Republic with a picture "Sworn Brothers."

ROMANOV, RYZHKOV ATTEND MOSCOW CEREMONY FOR CSSR

LD271706 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 27 Aug 84

[Text] A ceremonial meeting of representatives of the working people of Moscow was held today devoted to the 40th anniversary of the Slovak National Uprising. In the presidium were Comrade Romanov, member of the Politburo, CPSU Central Committee secretary; Comrade Ryzhkov, CPSU Central Committee secretary, and other official figures.

It was noted in the speeches made that a cornerstone of the foreign policy of the Soviet Union and Czechoslovakia — founded on the principles of Marxism-Leninism and socialist internationalism, and unity in class interests -- is the strengthening of friendship and the cohesion and mutually advantageous multilateral cooperation between the peoples of our countries, the fraternal states of the socialist community.

USSR GOVERNMENT SENDS GREETINGS TO CSSR

PM281040 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 28 Aug 84 First Edition p 1

[Text] To Comrade Gustav Husak, general secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee and president of Czechoslovakia

To Comrade Lubomir Strougal, Czechoslovak premier

Dear Comrades!

On behalf of the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, the USSR Council of Ministers, and the entire Soviet people, we send you and through you, the CPCZ Central Committee, the Czechoslovak Government, and the entire fraternal Czechoslovak people, cordial congratulations on the 40th anniversary of the Slovak National Uprising.

Exactly 4 decades ago, at the time of the victorious offensive of the Soviet Army, which was fulfilling its noble mission of liberating the peoples of Europe from fascism, the banner of the Czechoslovak people's armed struggle for the freedom and independence of their motherland was hoisted in the center of Slovakia.

The uprising was one of the major antifascist events of World War II. It was a graphic manifestation of the international nature of the resistance movement. Soviet people and antifascists from many European countries fought bravely with the Slovaks and Czechs. The Soviet Union gave all-around aid to the insurgents, sending them experienced organizers of the partisan movement, arms, and ammunition.

The East Carpathian offensive operation, carried out together with Soviet servicemen and men from the Czechoslovak I Army Corps, was an effective aid to the uprising.

The heroic Slovak National Uprising, in which the Communists were the leading political force, played a historic role in the fate of the Czechoslovak people.

It marked the start of the national democratic revolution in the country, which was developed by the Czech people's May uprising in 1945 and was victoriously completed in February 1948.

Having embarked on the path of building socialism, the Czechoslovak people, under the leadership of the Communist Party, have in the last few years achieved great successes in all spheres of life, the economy, and culture and in enhancing the working people's prosperity. Socialist Czechoslovakia's international prestige has risen considerably. As a firm link in the socialist community, the CSSR makes a weighty contribution to strengthening the unity and cohesion of the fraternal states and actively participates in the CEMA countries' socialist economic integration. Together with the Soviet Union and the other Warsaw Pact states, Czechoslovakia consistently advocates strengthening peace and averting the threat of nuclear war and resolutely rebuffs the dangerous intrigues of imperialist forces and the attempts by the United States and its NATO allies to upset the prevailing military-strategic equilibrium.

Celebrating this portentous anniversary with the Czechoslovak people, the Soviet people express profound satisfaction that the relations of brotherhood, friendship, and close cooperation between our parties and states, relations that are founded on the principles of Marxism-Leninism and socialist internationalism and are steadily developing and growing stronger. They are confident that this will continue.

We wish you, dear comrades, new successes in implementing the decisions of the 16th CPCZ Congress and in building a developed socialist society.

Long live the indissoluble alliance and fraternal friendship between the peoples of the Soviet Union and Czechoslovakia!

CPSU Central Committee, USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, USSR Council of Ministers

COMPARISON OF REPORTS ON CEAUSESCU SPEECH

Moscow PRAVDA in Russian on 23 August in its Second Edition carries on page 4 a TASS report on a speech by Nicolae Ceausescu entitled "Ceremonial Session in Bucharest." It has been compared with the Moscow IZVESTIYA Russian version published on page F 1 of the 27 August Soviet Union DAILY REPORT and has been found to be identical. However, comparison of the IZVESTIYA version of Ceausescu's speech with the TASS report under the same title published on page 4 of PRAVDA's 24 August First Edition, reveals the following omissions:

On page F 1, PRAVDA First Edition omits paragraph six

On page F 2, paragraphs one, two, three, and five are omitted

On page F 3, paragraphs five, six, and eight are omitted

BRIEFS

ROMANIAN FRIENDSHIP DAYS -- A Soviet-Romanian peoples friendship week began in Uzbek SSR on 20 August. The week has been organized on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of Romania's liberation from the fascist yoke. Documentaries on life in Romania will be shown in Tashkent during the week. Meanwhile, meetings will be held in Uzbek towns and villages dedicated to Romania's national day. Also, photography exhibitions depicting life in Romania have been organized by the members of the Soviet-Romanian Friendship Society. [Summary] [Tashkent International Service in Uzbek 1700 GMT 20 Aug 84 GF]

W. EUROPE OPPOSES U.S. CALLS FOR ARMS INCREASE

LD272149 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1900 GMT 27 Aug 84

[Eduard Kovalev commentary]

[Text] As the foreign press reports, a U.S. congressional delegation that includes several members of the commission on defense matters has visited the Western European countries of Belgium, Holland, the FRG and Denmark, and is now heading for Finland, Sweden and Norway.

Judging by what these visitors have occupied themselves with, international affairs journalist Eduard Kovalev notes, the U.S. congressmen have been conducting an inspection tour of NATO countries while simultaneously campaigning for the U.S. allies to increase their contributions to the bloc's military efforts. Everywhere they have gone they have lectured local, state, and political figures on the benefits of participating in NATO programs. For example, Earl Hutto, the head of the U.S. delegation and a Republican, criticized the Danish Government for its insignificant contribution to the defense of the West. Reproaching the Danes, he said that they have a high per capita annual income but refuse to increase military expenditure by 3 percent annually as called for by NATO bloc decisions.

However, it should be noted that in many countries, including Denmark, these lectures by the U.S. congressmen have evoked irritation and embarrassment. Representatives of the democratic public justly pointed out that U.S. pressure can only lead to a tenser international situation and a worsening of the financial and economic position of NATO states that blindly follow the bloc's recommendations on automatically increasing military budgets.

The Western European public has not limited itself to statements; an international conference of scientists and researchers on the problems of peace that took place the end of last week in Iceland was dedicated to stepping up the struggle against the U.S. course toward the intensified militarization of the North Atlantic, and against the involvement of the region's countries in NATO military preparations. Representatives of the USSR and Sweden who spoke at the conference stressed that the expansion of U.S. military bases, the construction of new military installations, and the activation of military policy in the region represents a serious danger to peace.

Comparing the foreign policies of the United States and the USSR, representatives of the Western European public stress that in contrast to the policy of the United States, the course of the Soviet Union is directed toward strengthening peace and limiting the arms race, including the nuclear arms race. The NATO countries' public responded very favorably to Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko's reply to the letter from the mayor of Manchester, where a conference on nuclear-free zones was held. In Western Europe there is high praise for the fact that the head of the Soviet state spoke in favor of setting up nuclear-free zones on the European Continent and of freeing Europe from medium-range and tactical nuclear weapons.

This policy of the Soviet Union, broad circles of the Western European public note, is in sharp contrast with the inflammatory course preached by official Washington.

PRAVDA HITS FRG FIRM'S MISSILE DEVELOPMENT WORK

PM271329 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 25 Aug 84 First Edition p 5

[Lev Strzhizhovskiy "Commentator's Column": "Who Are the Missiles For?"]

[Text] The French weekly LE POINT published some interesting news a few days ago. It appears that the West German firm "Orbital Transport und Raketen" (OTRAG) has carried out secret tests of a new medium-range missile in Zaire and northern Africa. Following a long interval this is the first time that the firm has made the news.

From the very outset, the activity of West German missile builders created justified fears in the world. The firm, founded in the FRG, conducts its work in Africa. Several years ago, it concluded a secret agreement with the Zaire Government and later according to Western press reports, leased testing grounds in other African countries. OTRAG went on to assemble and test its products there. To placate public opinion, the firm's leaders have repeatedly declared that they are engaged in developing cheap means of space transportation, supposedly intended to meet the peaceful needs of developing countries. Nevertheless, the first models, the nature of the work, and the test launches have proved that they are actually engaged in missile technology that can also be used for military purposes.

It would be naive to imagine that OTRAG is actually concerned with the needs of young states. People knew from the very outset who was behind the firm's leaders. Back in 1971, the Bonn Ministry of Research and Technology allocated a large sum to this private company for the development of a new rocket motor. OTRAG then continued receiving loans and subsidies from various government and private organizations. Christian Social Union leader F. J. Strauss was proved to be involved in the agreement with Zaire, according to DER SPIEGEL. Thus these are the firm's highly placed patrons! Naturally, the attention and support enjoyed by OTRAG in its projects can be explained by only one thing: It is fulfilling orders from the FRG military-industrial complex on its testing grounds abroad. The nature of these orders is obvious: to develop the FRG's own missiles, above all, ballistic missiles.

The latest revelations by the journal LE POINT confirm that OTRAG has not been wasting any time. Since 1977, when the first launch took place, the firm has succeeded in developing so-called "medium-range" missiles.

One cannot but notice an amazing "coincidence." No sooner had the West European Union lifted the ban on the FRG's production of strategic bomber aircraft and ballistic missiles than OTRAG began conducting new tests. It is quite likely that the Bundeswehr generals are already including OTRAG's output in their long-term arms buildup programs.

KOHL'S POSITION ON REVANCHISM QUESTIONED

LD272016 Moscow TASS in English 1950 GMT 27 Aug 84

[Text] Bonn August 27 TASS -- One is surprised by West German Federal Chancellor Helmut Kohl's ignorance on questions of revanchism. At a time when 2.5 million West Germans are members of organisations which periodically hold their gatherings in which a former president of the Federal Republic and a member of Helmut Kohl's cabinet, Minister for Inter-German Relations Heinrich Windelen recently took part, the chancellor continues to assert that "there is no revanchism in the Federal Republic." Precisely this remark he made in an interview with Channel Two of the West German ZDF Television.

Facts testify that the chief grouping of revenge-seekers, the so-called "Union of the Expelled," now possesses a powerful propaganda apparatus. It owns more than 300 newspapers with a total circulation exceeding 1.5 million copies. The activity of the apparatus, as well as gatherings regularly held by more than twenty communities and 11 land groups which are incorporated in the "Union of the Expelled" give rise to concern of West Germany's democratic public. The position adopted on this issue by the West German federal chancellor seems the more strange in this connection.

ZHOLKVER COMMENTS ON FRG MILITARISM, REVANCHISM

LD272313 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1445 GMT 27 Aug 84

[From "The World Today" program presented by Aleksandr Zholkver]

[Text] In connection with the 40th anniversary of the victory over fascism, thoughts are more and more often turning to the question of whether everyone has learned the lessons of history. The question is especially apt when you see an obvious activation of revanchist and neofascist forces in West Germany. True, in Bonn they always look hurt when they hear such accusations. This time, too, the head of the West German Government, Chancellor Kohl -- having just returned from vacation in Bonn, where today, after the summer recess, the Bundestag has resumed its activity -- immediately started denying all the reproaches being directed at the FRG regarding revanchism, militarism, and neofascism.

It is no accident that there is the saying: Facts are stubborn. And here are a few facts of the recent past: The Hamburg DER SPIEGEL publishes excerpts from a confidential report by Altenburg, inspector general of the Bundeswehr. Although the West Germany Army is now the largest in Western Europe, the general is still not satisfied and is presenting a plan for the further buildup of West German armaments.

In this connection, I would like to recall that recently the West German Government obtained from the West European Union a lifting of the last restrictions on military goods manufacture, including the production of missiles and long-range bombers. However, the FRG is already a major arsenal. American Pershing and cruise missiles are sited there. In addition, in the last few days another militaristic project has been reported: to build a pipeline on FRG territory, along the border with the GDR, that would contain liquid explosives that could be detonated at any time on orders from NATO headquarters. By the way, it has been learned that this same liquid explosive, nitromethane, has already been tested in West Germany.

Can all this fail to cause the most serious concern, especially when calls are being made more and more often in the FRG for a return to the old German homeland, which is what they call the territories that have been an integral part of Poland, Czechoslovakia, and the Soviet Union for 4 decades now. However, the old and new fascists, who have been especially busy of late in the FRG, are dreaming of going beyond these borders.

One of these organizations is the National Socialist Action Front headed by former Bundeswehr officer Michael Kuehnen. He acted so brazenly in the FRG, including threatening the use of arms, that the police eventually began observing his movements. Kuehnen deemed it time to leave the FRG for a while, living first in Switzerland and then in France. But even there he not only lives well, but, as the Hamburg STERN reports, directs his like-minded fellows in West Germany. He has also written a book entitled "His Struggle for Our Heritage" with a portrait of Hitler on the cover.

NEUES DEUTSCHLAND CITED ON THAELMANN MURDER CASE

LD201903 Moscow TASS in English 1723 GMT 20 Aug 84

[Text] Berline August 20 TASS -- The West German Themis continues patronising over former Nazis, who are responsible for bloody crimes during the years of the Second World War. This is exemplified by the attitude of the FRG's justice organs to the murderers of Ernst Thaelmann; a prominent figure of the German and international communist movement; chairman of the Communist Party of Germany, the newspaper NEUES DEUTSCHLAND writes.

As has been learnt, the newspaper writes, the land court in Kleve town has declined the appeal for examining in court the charge made against SS-man Wolfgang Otto, who was one of the murderers of Thaelmann, when holding the office of chief of Execution Squad 99 in Buchenwald concentration camp. Thus, the West German public prosecutors and judges have for the seventh time refused to institute criminal proceedings against the butcher, who is now comfortably off in the FRG.

The first charge against the criminal was made twenty-two years ago. But all the "proofs" furnished by the lawyers were aimed not at proving the guilt of the murderer, but on the contrary, at justifying him. Many conclusions were drawn by the West German justice organs in the spirit of "cold war" and anti-communist propaganda. Thus, Marian Zgoda, the star witness of the prosecution and eyewitness of the murder, was presented as a man who does not inspire confidence, as he had distributed communist leaflets in 1951.

In 1974, the prosecutors said that the case of the murder of Ernst Thaelmann was not to be examined in court because of the expiry of the statute of limitation, although they knew too well that that was in conflict with the laws of the FRG. Then it was cynically stated that in order to characterize the crime as murder, such characteristics were lacking as cruelty, perfidy or vile motives.

The list of such gimmicks can be continued. This way or another but the FRG Themis has for 40 years now used all sort of subterfuges with the sole aim of protecting a Nazi butcher from punishment according to his deserts, the newspaper NEUES DEUTSCHLAND points out.

SUPREME SOVIET SENDS GREETINGS TO MITTERRAND

LD242340 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1635 GMT 24 Aug 84

[Text] Moscow, 24 Aug (TASS) -- We are transmitting the text of a greetings telegram:

"His Excellency Monsieur Francois Mitterrand, President of the French Republic

"On the occasion of the portentous anniversary, the 40th anniversary of the liberation of Paris from the Hitlerite occupation, we send sincere congratulations to you, Monsieur President, and to the entire French people.

"The combat collaboration between the Soviet Union and France in the years of the most difficult of wars and the traditional ties of friendship strengthened in joint struggle and victory over fascism are an inheritance rightly valued by the people of our countries.

"The experience of the postwar period has shown that mutual interaction between the USSR and France in the international arena can be an important factor in the policies of detente and the strengthening of European security. New opportunities for this have been opened up by the recent Soviet-French summit meeting in Moscow.

"On this memorable day, we wish the friendly people of France peace and prosperity.

[Signed] "The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium"

CPSU GREETS PCF ON LIBERATION ANNIVERSARY

LD242336 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1608 GMT 24 Aug 84

[Text] Moscow, 24 August. (TASS) -- We are transmitting the full text of the CPSU Central Committee greetings:

"To the Central Committee of the French Communist Party

"Dear Comrades,

"The Communist Party Central Committee of the Soviet Union sends hearty greetings to the Central Committee of the French Communist Party [PCF], to all French Communists, on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the liberation of Paris from the Hitlerite occupation. In the years of World War II, the Communists, in the first ranks of patriots of France, fought courageously for the freedom and independence of their country. The liberation of Paris, to which your party made a worthy contribution, has become one of the glorious pages in the history of the French resistance.

"In today's conditions, when the forces of imperialism and reaction are trying to reverse the course of social development, feverishly building up military preparations in the striving for world domination, the active struggle for peace and security of peoples, against the dangerous arms race, a decisive rebuff to any kinds of manifestations of revanchism and neo-fascism, acquire paramount significance. We wish the fraternal French Communist Party, which has always held the banner of national independence high, successes in upholding foreign policy principles that meet the fundamental interests of France, in the struggle for friendship and cooperation between the Soviet and French peoples.

[Signed] "The Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union"

VOSS RECEIVES NETHERLANDS PARTY DELEGATION

LD271749 Moscow TASS in English 1708 GMT 27 Aug 84

[Text] Moscow August 27 TASS -- Chairman of the Soviet of Nationalities of the USSR Supreme Soviet Avgust Voss met today with a delegation of senior members of the Christian Democratic Appeal Party of the Netherlands, led by party Chairman Pit Buckman. The delegation is staying in the Soviet Union at the invitation of the Soviet Committee for European Security and Cooperation.

The guests familiarised themselves with the activity of the USSR Supreme Soviet. The sides exchanged views on topical questions of European security, consolidation of international cooperation and prevention of the nuclear war menace in the continent and throughout the world.

ARMS RACE AMONG TOPICS FOR PCI FESTIVAL

LD280730 Moscow TASS in English 0650 GMT 28 Aug 84

[Text] Rome August 28 TASS -- A press conference will be held today at the Central Committee of the Italian Communist Party which is to be devoted to the coming nationwide festival of the newspaper L'UNITA. It is to start on August 30 in the Italian capital. The press conference will be addressed by leaders of the party and organizers of the festival who are to set forth a comprehensive program of the festival. It includes the discussion of the problems of peace and of the ways to prevent a new round of the arms race, the analysis of questions connected with the struggle of Italian working people for their rights and democratic gains. The organizers of the festival will devote special attention to acute social problems of today's Italy, for instance, unemployment and inflation.

BRIEFS

ITALIAN CP MEMBER IN UZBEKISTAN -- (Giarad Sierra Monte), member of the Italian Communist Party chairmanship council, currently visiting the Soviet Union, has arrived in Uzbekistan. He has visited the Uzbek economic products exhibition and sites of interest in Tashkent. The guest from Italy will also visit Samarkand. On 23 August, (Giarad Sierra Monte) was received by the Uzbek Communist Party Central Community. [Text] [Tashkent Domestic Service in Uzbek 0115 GMT 24 Aug 84 GF]

ARAB LEAGUE TO DISCUSS IRAN-IRAQ CONFLICT

PM271247 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 27 Aug 84 Morning Edition p 4

[Unattributed report: "Attempt To Settle Crisis"]

[Text] AFP reported on Sunday morning that an extraordinary session of the Arab League Council is to open in Baghdad to discuss the settlement of the Iran-Iraq conflict.

The foreign ministers of Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Kuwait, Tunisia, Iraq, Morocco, and the Yemen Arab Republic, as well as Hedli Klibi, the League's secretary general, are taking part in the session.

The session will summarize the results of contacts by representatives of the "seven" with leaders of a number of European countries as well as Japan and the PRC. These contacts were made with the aim of redoubling efforts designed to induce Iran to sit down at the negotiating table. Iraq, the agency notes, has expressed itself in favor of a peaceful settlement of the conflict on several occasions.

'ARAFAT CITED ON PLO UNITY, SYRIAN TIES

PM271131 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 26 Aug 84 Morning Edition p 4

[Own Correspondent L. Pavlov dispatch: "Egypt: Yasir 'Arafat Interview"]

[Text] Cairo -- Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, gave an interview to the Cairo weekly AL-MUSAWWAR in which he discussed the situation within the PLO and Palestinian-Syrian relations.

In particular, he noted that time has shown the futility of the attempts by certain groups within the PLO to undermine the organization's unity and its ability to take independent decisions. "These plans were thwarted by the staunchness of our fighters and the support for our cause," Yasir 'Arafat stressed.

Yasir 'Arafat characterized the recent visit by Faruq Qaddumi, PLO Political Department leader, to Damascus, as a "positive move aimed at improving relations between the PLO and Syria."

GLUKHOV: ISRAEL SEEKING DISMEMBERMENT OF LEBANON

PM280905 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 26 Aug 84 First Edition p 5

[Yuriy Glukhov "Commentator's Column": "Lebanon's Dismemberment"]

[Text] Beirut -- The Lebanese Government has requested an urgent meeting of the UN Security Council in connection with the aggressive actions of the Israeli invaders in Lebanon's south. This appeal is motivated by the fact that Tel Aviv has recently conducted a whole series of far-reaching acts designed to implement its expansionist plans.

For example, according to a report in the Beirut newspaper AS-SAFIR, border posts have been shifted 3-5 km into Lebanon with the aim of seizing part of the Lebanese territory. At the same time, the occupiers have closed the only transport route connecting their seized part of Lebanon with the rest of the country. Some 750,000 Lebanese are completely cut off from their compatriots.

The unbridled terror against Lebanese and Palestinians in the occupied zone shows no abatement. Every day the inhabitants of south Lebanese towns and villages fall victim to Israeli repression.

In addition, the interventionists are carrying out punitive operations beyond the occupied zone. An armored column of the aggressors recently crossed the Awwali River line, penetrated the territory of free Lebanon, and began a movement toward Beirut.

The rapacious plundering of the country's natural resources is continuing. In particular the Israelis are accelerating the work of diverting the waters of the Al-Litani and other Lebanese rivers.

All these measures are effectively paving the way for the annexation of the Lebanese territory seized by the Israelis. Tel Aviv tried to pull off this trick by attempting to establish a protectorate over southern Lebanon under cover of the so-called "peace agreement" of 17 May 1983, which was forced on the Lebanese with Washington's help. The Lebanese people rejected this shackling treaty. The occupiers have now decided to act openly, bluntly, and directly. It is no accident that the Israeli ruling circles are so zealously opposing the convening of an international conference on a Near East settlement, in the hope of dictating their conditions to the Arabs, including the Lebanese. And with regard to Lebanon, both the Labor Party and the Likud bloc, the main political groups contending for power in Israel, speak the same language, the language of threats and aggression.

However, the policy of plunder is being repulsed. The opposition movement in Lebanon's occupied south continues unabated. According to Lebanese press figures, Israeli losses during the intervention have alrady exceeded 2,000 officers and men. This figure continues to grow. The Lebanese people cannot and will not accept the division of their country, the loss of part of their motherland, or the infringing of its sovereignty and independence. In turning to the UN Security Council, Lebanon is again drawing the world public's attention to Tel Aviv's criminal practice, aided and abetted by Washington, in carrying out robbery and violence on foreign soil.

CHARGES AGAINST LIBYA IN RED SEA MINING REBUTTED

LD272012 Moscow International Service in Arabic 1430 GMT 27 Aug 84

[From the "Window on the Arab World" program presented by Aleksandr Timoshkin]

[Text] The United States concentrates its military presence in the Red Sea. Western, particularly American propaganda continues to pump up the clamor about the so-called mine sweeping operation in the Red Sea. Unfounded accusations are raised against the Libyan Jamahiriyah. However, even America itself was forced to admit that it has not found any evidence of Libya's involvement. THE WASHINGTON POST, for example, had written about that. The French authorities also could not find any evidence of the involvement of the Libyan ship Qad in the mining although they meticulously searched the ship while it was berthed in Marseilles for repairs. Lastly, and as the official Saudi news agency has said, the search for mines in Saudi waters has ended without any tangible results. However, Washington ignores all these facts and sends more and more warships. The huge American aircraft carrier the America is now heading there accompanied by a number of other American warships. Therefore, they are talking about a permanent concentration of U.S. naval military power in the Red Sea, since Washington intends to maintain its presence indefinitely. This was referred to in statements by NATO generals that the mine sweeping operation could go on for many months. Several Arab papers note that Washington is intentionally intensifying tension in the Red Sea to justify the perpetuation of the American military presence there.

A matter which might put the Arab world, as the Tunisian AS-SABAH paper says, between the jaws of the American and NATO pincers. The Tunisian paper continued that the American military presence in the Red Sea will be directed primarily against the eastern Arab and African countries that follow a firm independent and anti-imperialist policy.

The Tunisian paper AS-SABAH added that the United States and its NATO allies also attempt to exert pressure to intimidate the entire Arab world which strongly supports the Soviet Union's recent proposals for a just settlement in the Middle East by political means.

SOVIET MUSLIM GROUP BEGINS MECCA PILGRIMAGE

LD271535 Moscow World Service in English 1500 GMT 27 Aug 84

[Text] A group of Muslims from the Soviet Union have left for Mecca. They are led by Shamsutdin Babakhanov, the chairman of Muslim Religious Board of Central Asia and Kazakhstan. We are praying and will pray, he said, that a nuclear holocaust should not sweep our planet. In the Soviet Union there are now over 1,100 Muslim religious communities. New mosques have lately been opened in some areas in the east of the country, in the Transcaucasus and along the Volga.

BRIEFS

EGYPTIAN DIGNITARY VISITS UZBEKISTAN -- Muhammad Yasin, member of the Egyptian National Progressive Unionist Grouping Central Committee and chairman of the board of directors of AL-AHALI newspaper, who is currently visiting the Soviet Union, arrived in Uzbekistan today. The guest will acquaint himself with Uzbek economic and cultural development, printing and [word indistinct] in Uzbekistan, and visit sites of interest in Tashkent, the capital. Muhammad Yasin will also travel to Samarkand. [Text] [Tashkent Domestic Service in Uzbek 1600 GMT 26 Aug 84 GF]

FRANCE'S CONTINUING CHAD INVOLVEMENT REVIEWED

PM271417 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 23 Aug 84 Morning Edition p 4

[F. Konopikhin's "International Commentary": "The Price of Intervention"]

[Text] The French expeditionary forces have been in the Republic of Chad for over a year now, and there is no end in sight to the intervention. French Defense Minister C. Hernu has announced that the French soldiers will not leave Chad until the security of that central African state is assured. In practical terms, this means an attempt to stabilize the regime of H. Habre, who captured Ndjamena after breaking the 1979 Lagos agreement on the establishment of the Transitional Government of National Unity (GUNT) headed by G. Oueddei.

There was a time when France supported G. Oueddei and recognized him as head of Chad's legitimate government. It seemed that the Socialists' coming to power in Paris promised a consolidation of the situation in that long-suffering country, rent by 18 years of internecine fighting. After all, judging by the Socialists' election promises, France was to renounce the role of gendarme in Africa, cease intervening in the internal affairs of African countries, and even withdraw its troops from the continent. "There will no left-wing 'Operation Barracuda,'" Guy Pen, African affairs adviser to President F. Mitterrand, who had just come to power, assured the Africans. He was referring to the French military action, carried out on Giscard d-Estaing's orders, which made a coup d'etat in the Central African Republic possible.

People across the ocean held a different opinion. The course of independence and nonalignment proclaimed by G. Oueddei was seen as damaging U.S. "national interests." By openly supporting the pro-Western H. Habre, Washington added fuel to the fire of conflict in Chad. Having proclaimed Chad as part of the French "sphere of influence," the White House allocated $10 million initially and then a further $25 million, for airlifting Zairian troops to Ndjamena. The forces opposing the GUNT received the most modern weapons. The Americans' open provocation caused no reaction in Paris. Nostalgia for colonial domination in Africa proved stronger than the principles proclaimed before the elections. Operation "Manta" took place following the "Barracuda" model: 3,500 French soldiers were dispatched to Chad in support of H. Habre. In defending its own imperial ambitions, Paris was simultaneously defending Washington's strategic concepts, although, as NEWSWEEK wrote, "Francois Mitterrand introduced troops in Chad with approximately the same enthusiasm as that of a connoisseur of expensive wines serving a a cheap port." When the French found themselves up to their necks in the morass of the Chad conflict, the United States pretended that it had nothing to do with it.

Paris is now trying to make the best of a bad job. Defense Minister C. Hernu claims that the presence of French subunits has made it possible to create "a situation of calm" in the country. The minister is deliberately closing his eyes to the unceasing demonstrations against the Ndjamena regime in southern Chad and the death of French servicemen for the sake of the Hotel Matignon's [French Government Headquarters] neocolonialist ambitions and the White House's strategic concepts. According to Paris press reports, the daily cost of the French presence in Chad is currently Fr3 million. No wonder the newspaper LE FIGARO expressed the opinion that France's position in Chad brings to mind the U.S. position in Vietnam. The replacement of Operation "Manta" chief General J. Poli by General (T. Beshyu) has ben an indirect admission of failure.

Despite Western press assurances, the foreign intervention has brought nothing good to the Chadians themselves. The country remains split, the population is subjected to the occupiers' arbitrary rule, and hundreds of thousands of refugees cannot return to their native homes.

Over the past few months the Nigerian leadership has taken a number of important steps to improve the situation in the country. Instances of blatant public funds embezzlement have come to light during the course of trials. Harsh punishment has been imposed on individuals guilty of misappropriating vast sums, often reaching millions of naira. A currency reform was introduced last May, and the new denominations were issued in strictly limited quantities, making it possible to exclude from circulation the vast sums accumulated by speculators, embezzlers of public funds, and swindlers.

According to some reports, the money supply was approximately halved. Immediately afterwards, the head of state announced a new budget for the current year and a regime of strict economy and reduction of imports. Particular alarm is caused by the growing payments deficit, which is far from easy to overcome because of the vast payments being made to repay foreign loans, estimated at about $17 billion.

According to World Bank estimates, over the next 3 years Nigeria will have to repay $11 billion to its international creditors, more than $7 billion of which is owed to the IMF. The Nigerian Government is currently negotiating with it for a new loan amounting to $3-4 billion.

The IMF demands that a number of conditions be met. They include the transition of the state sector onto a "free market" track, cutbacks in expenditures on social needs, a ban on strikes, the lifting of import restrictions, and the devaluation of the national currency, the naira. It is becoming evident that attempts are being made to reorientate the Nigerian economic system in order to give broader scope to private enterprise and consolidate the positions of foreign capital.

Thus, they want the country in bondage to international imperialism. The banks, the monetary funds, and the international corporations, like an octopus, are spreading their tentacles over the developing countries. This is being done for the sake of superprofits and to hinder the process of the young states' struggle for economic independence and the just restructuring of international economic relations.

The state sector is highly important for Nigeria's independent development and its abilit to withstand the onslaught by neocolonialism. Its positions have been noticeably strengthened by the joint Soviet-Nigerian "construction project of the century" -- the major metallurgical complex in Ajaokuta, whose first rolling mill was commissioned a year ago. Nevertheless, as yet there is a shortage of similar enterprises that would make a consolidation of the economy's base sectors possible.

The Nigerian economy undoubtedly needs extensive restructuring. It has to resolve the difficult problem of self-sufficiency in industry and agriculture and to minimize the country's vulnerability to international crises. With its vast natural and labor resources, Nigeria has the potential to achieve this. The way to successful development lies through the observance of the following condition: All socioeconomic and financial difficulties must be resolved with due consideration for national interests and with the help of all the people.

The immediate future will show whether the stabilization of economic and social life has been successful. Historical experience shows that this task is complex but feasible. Because Nigeria's history contains many glorious pages, it appears that its people are fully justified in being optimistic about the future.

FURTHER ON USSR DELEGATION'S VISIT TO ANGOLA

LD250852 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1817 GMT 24 Aug 84

[Text] Luanda, 24 Aug (TASS) -- A delegation of the USSR Supreme Soviet led by A.S. Barkauskas, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet, is continuing its official visit to the People's Republic of Angola.

The Soviet guests visited Benguela Province, where they acquainted themselves with the work of local power organs and visited one of the largest enterprises in the republic, the 1 May Sugar Works. Photographic exhibitions on the Soviet Union's achievements in building communism and on Soviet-Angolan cooperation opened to mark the visit by the USSR delegation to the province's administrative center.

During talks with the Soviet parliamentarians, Kundi Paiama, candidate member of the MPLA-Labor Party Central Committee Politburo, member of the Permanent Commission of the People's Assembly of the People's Republic of Angola and commissioner of Benguela Province, stressed that the people of Angola view the USSR as a reliable friend who has always given Angola all-around help. We highly value the Soviet Union's efforts to consolidate peace and international security, and we fully support the USSR's peace initiatives to prevent a new war, he said. K. Paiama reaffirmed the firm determination of the Angolan people to build the foundations of a socialist society on the principles of Marxism-Leninism.

Today, the head of the Soviet delegation met with Paulo Jorge, member of the MPLA-Labor Party Central Committee and minister of external affairs of the People's Republic of Angola. During the talks, views were exchanged on fundamental international problems and the situation in South Africa.

Visit Ends

LD272323 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1900 GMT 27 Aug 84

[Text] The official visit to the People's Republic of Angola by a USSR Supreme Soviet delegation has ended. As the official communique on the results of the visit stresses, Angola highly appraises the policy of peace and peaceful coexistence pursued by the Soviet Union and expresses firm support for the USSR's peace initiatives.

OAU CAUTIONS AGAINST TALKS WITH PRETORIA

PM271233 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 27 Aug 84 Morning Edition p 4

[Own correspondent Z. Kadymbekov commentary: "Another of Pretoria's Intrigues: The Ringleader of the Racist Regime Is Preparing for a Tour of African Countries"]

[Text] Addis Ababa -- A visitor from Pretoria intends to tour Morocco, Zaire, the Ivory Coast, and Gabon. A statement on this subject issued by the cabinet of the OAU president in Addis Ababa notes that the planned visits have been conceived in collusion with Africa's enemies. They are part of apartheid's current attempts to break out of the international isolation in which it finds itself thanks to the efforts of all the world's progressive forces.

African governments must be well aware of the whole responsibility that they accept by engaging in any kind of talks with Pretoria, the document emphasizes.

In doing so, they are betraying the interests of their brothers and sisters languishing under apartheid's oppression in the south of the continent. Africa cannot and must not sacrifice the heroic struggle of the patriots of the Republic of South Africa [RSA] and Namibia for the sake of dubious political advantages in the unspecified future.

It is quite obvious that P. Botha's proposed trip is an attempt by the racists not only to break out of isolation, but to drive a wedge into the unity of African states and to damage the national liberation movement of southern Africa's peoples.

The racist ringleader's patrons, the U.S. imperialists, are displaying direct interest in his upcoming tour. NEWSWEEK magazine, referring to diplomatic sources, reported that presumably after the visit to a number of the continent's countries, other African states will decide to establish diplomatic and trade relations with the RSA.

The statement of the cabinet of the OAU president addresses a grave warning to the African states that intend to hold talks with Pretoria. The latest political trick is also being staged by the racists in order to whitewash the criminal regime and give it a semblance of legality in the eyes of the world public.

RSA ELECTION RESULTS SHOW REFORMS FAILING

MB241932 Moscow in Zulu to Southern Africa 1800 GMT 24 Aug 84

[(Lusok Belkov) commentary]

[Text] According to BBC reports, Pieter Botha was not satisfied with the colored elections, an indication that the colored people did not want to participate in the new constitutional dispensation even at the initial stage. It is clear that the so-called reforms in South Africa are failing, and there is no way of hiding the shamefulness of the effort. Pieter Botha has reasons for his failure. You will recall that this election fiasco had been prepared for a long time, approximately a year. Governments of the United States and other Western countries helped South Africa in fostering the view that some change was taking place within the country. These countries were motivated by their own selfish interests.

Most radio commentators throughout the world viewed the new dispensation as a softening of apartheid. Before the elections, Pieter Botha embarked on an European trip to market the purported changes, meant to entrench and legalize apartheid, to the international community. Prior to the actual elections, the Boers took very stern actions to make the election process easy. Hundreds of dissenters opposed to the sham elections were taken into custody. So far, the figure stands at 150. Police used all their force -- batons, teargas, and rubber bullets -- to disperse the protestors. Plans were made to celebrate the victory of the government's strategy in elections. However, the results were very disappointing. Eighty percent of the eligible colored voters did not participate. They refused to be hoodwinked by the apartheid government with its sham reforms. This confirms the view that most groups in South Africa are united in fighting the apartheid monster. The struggle will continue. On 28 August, the Indian elections will be held.

NAMIBIA ARMED STRUGGLE ANNIVERSARY NOTED

MB271649 Moscow in Zulu to Southern Africa 1800 GMT 26 Aug 84

["Special Feature": "Namibia's Independence"]

[Text] On 26 August all those concerned about freedom for Namibia observe Namibia's National Day. This date marks the beginning of the armed struggle by the liberation forces bent on overthrowing the South African illegal regime in Namibia. The national unifying force behind this struggle is directed by SWAPO, an experienced political movement that has gained the respect and recognition of all those who love freedom, trust, and humanity in the world. Please listen to the remarks of (Yatislav Potemkin), member of the Soviet Committee for Solidarity With Asian and African Countries.

[Begin (Potemkin) recording in Russian fading into Zulu] The Soviet Committee for Solidarity With Asian and African Countries, on behalf of the people of the Soviet Union, conveys a message of warm solidarity with the people of Namibia, together with their organization SWAPO, on the 18th anniversary of the beginning of armed struggle by the Namibian patriots against the racists and colonial settlers of South Africa. [end recording]

At many international forums, those working for the USSR Government, including ethnologists and students, have repeatedly documented the crimes of apartheid and their effect on the people of Namibia, who have long suffered under the yoke of oppression. Soviet media, including the press, radio, and television, continuously carry programs highlighting the suffering of the Namibian people, who are being guided by SWAPO towards their goal of freedom. Included in these media releases are reviews of the methods and thoughts of such countries as the United States, which backs the South African racists to the hilt and would prefer that Namibia remain under the tutelage of South Africa forever.

The funds of the Soviet Peace Council are regularly used to aid the leaders and patriots of Namibia by providing them with foodstuffs, medicines, and other related material needs. This money is donated by the working people of the USSR for use by SWAPO. Today, the people of the Soviet Union again proclaim worldwide that they have no ulterior motives for material gain in the struggle between SWAPO and the exploiters, (Yatislav Potemkin), member of the Soviet Committee for Solidarity With Asian and African Countries, observed.

Concerning the importance of the relationship between the Namibian people and SWAPO, you will hear the contribution of (Obed Tulinam Engula), member of the SWAPO executive.

[Begin (Engula) recording in English fading into Zulu] So far we have decided to intensify the armed liberation struggle thanks to the assistance given by the press of peace all over the world, and particularly the socialist countries. Due to this assistance, we have been able to land telling blows on our enemies, the racists of South Africa. [end recording]

As we are celebrating Namibia's Solidarity and National Day, Dr Javier de Cuellar, the UN secretary general, has appealed to all governments and peoples of the world to strengthen their assistance to the Namibia cause so that Namibian independence can be accelerated.

Messages from the OAU, the Afro-Asian solidarity bloc, the Nonaligned Movement, UN special interest committees, and other concerned parties on the Namibian question state that eventually the people of Namibia will forge ahead and ultimately attain their independence from South Africa

USSR, COLOMBIA EXCHANGE NATIONAL DAY GREETINGS

PM270913 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 24 Aug 84 Morning Edition p 1

[TASS report: "Exchange of Telegrams"]

[Text] The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium has sent a telegram to Belisario Betancur Cuartas, president of Colombia, that conveys to the Colombian people and to the president himself sincere congratulations and wishes for success and prosperity on Independence Day, the country's national holiday. The telegram expresses confidence that the relations of friendship and constructive cooperation established between the Soviet Union and Colombia will continue to develop successfully for the good of the two countries' peoples and in the interests of peace and international security.

In a reply telegram to K.U. Chernenko, the Colombian president expressed sincere gratitude for the congratulations and good wishes. The Colombian Government and people, the telegram says, are striving to ensure that the relations of friendship and cooperation with the Soviet Union become even closer in the interests of peace and international brotherhood.

USSR, ECUADOR EXCHANGE NATIONAL DAY GREETINGS

PM271611 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 25 Aug 84 Morning Edition p 2

[TASS report: "Telegrams Exchanged"]

[Text] The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium has sent a telegram to Ecuadoran President Leon Febres Cordero conveying to him and the Ecuadoran people congratulations and best wishes on the country's national holiday, Independence Day.

In a telegram addressed to K.U. Chernenko, the Ecuadoran president expressed gratitude for the congratulations and good wishes and conveyed best wishes for progress and prosperity to the Soviet people.

The telegrams express the hope that the good relations between the USSR and Ecuador will continue to develop successfully on a constructive basis in the interests of strengthening peace and for the good of the Soviet and Ecuadoran peoples.

USSR-MEXICAN RELATIONS ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATED

Mexican Official Cited

PM270939 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 24 Aug 84 Morning Edition p 1

[Own correspondent V. Silantyev dispatch under the "Foreign Events" rubric: "Mexico-USSR: Fruitful Cooperation"]

[Text] Mexico City -- The problem of strengthening peace has occupied a paramount place in the dialogue between the Mexican and Soviet Governments, Mexican Foreign Secretary Bernardo Sepulveda Amor said when addressing a ceremonial meeting devoted to the 60th anniversary of Soviet-Mexican diplomatic relations.

In past years, the minister stressed, Mexican-Soviet relations have constantly broadened and deepened in various spheres based on the traditional friendship between the two countries' peoples and governments, mutual understanding and respect for each other, peaceful coexistence, and noninterference.

The result of the beneficial cooperation, the minister noted, has been to expand political contacts, parliamentary exchanges, trade relations, and scientific, technical, and cultural ties. As an example, the Mexican foreign secretary cited the agreements recently signed between the two countries on expanding trade, Soviet technical assistance in developing the Mexican metallurgical industry, and on a scientific and technical cooperation program for the next 2 years. "Mexico values and develops its ties with the Soviet Government and people and is happily celebrating the 60th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between our countries," Bernardo Sepulveda Amor concluded.

Scholars Honored

PM241021 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 23 Aug 84 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "On the Jubilee"]

[Text] Mexico City, 22 Aug -- The 60th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the Soviet Union and Mexico is being widely marked in the two countries. To mark the anniversary and highly recognize the great contribution made by Soviet Latin-Americanists to the development of friendship between the Soviet and Mexican peoples and the Soviet scholars' work in the sphere of the politics, economics, and history of Mexico and other Latin American countries, the Mexican government has awarded the Order of the Aztec Eagle to Doctor of Economic Sciences V.V. Volskiy, director of the USSR Academy of Science's Latin American Institute, Doctor of Historical Sciences A.F. Shulgovskiy, and Doctor of Historical Sciences M.S. Alperovich.

By decree of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, a group of Mexican politicans and public figures have been awarded the Order of the Friendship of the Peoples.

NICARAGUA'S ORTEGA CLAIMS U.S. PLANNING ATTACK

LD241301 Moscow TASS in English 1037 GMT 24 Aug 84

[Text] Managua August 24 TASS -- TASS correspondent Sergey Gorbunov reports:

The Reagan administration plans and armed attack on Nicaragua, said Daniel Ortega, member of the national leadership of the Sandinist National Liberation Front, coordinator of the steering council of the government. He made a speech at a meeting on the occasion of the fourth anniversary of the beginning of mass literacy campaign.

Dainel Ortega said that Washington's criminal designs are clearly reflected in the policy platform of the Republican Party, on the basis of which President Reagan intends to ensure his re-election. The Washington administration which has been waging criminal warfare against Nicaragua for more than three years now is toughening its aggressive actions. Military exercises are now being held in Honduras with the participation of U.S. regular troops. American military bases and about 10 airdromes were built on the territory of that country.

All that is being done, stressed Daniel Ortega, to prepare ground for U.S. direct military intervention in our country.

American warships, coursing in Central American waters, are a base for CIA mercenaries who mine ports of Nicaragua and fire at its coast from motor boats. American war planes make espionage flights over Central America, collecting data for preparation of an armed intervention in Nicaragua and new punitive operations against patriots of El Salvador.

Hundreds CIA mercenaries have been amassed in the area of Guanacaste (Costa Rica), the Nicaraguan leader said. Those mercenaries intend to attack Nicaragua's Department of Rivas and thereby to give support to Somoza thugs who intruded into the country from Honduras.

Speaking of the project of creating a national air alarm system, which was submitted for consideration of the State Council of the republic, Daniel Ortega noted that the people of Nicaragua devotes every effort to strengthen the defences which call for establishing such a system that would envisage the training of civilians in methods of protection from possible American air bombings. For the U.S. Government it is high time to realize that Nicaraguans want peace, but they shall never give up their gains and will be fighting against American interventionists till the last drop of blood, stressed Daniel Ortega.

STAROSELSKIY HITS U.S. THREAT TO CENTRAL AMERICA

LD241042 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1415 GMT 23 Aug 84

["As If in Their Private Domain" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, 23 Aug (TASS) -- TASS commentator Sergey Staroselskiy writes:

U.S. President Ronald Reagan has signed a bill for further allocations to El Salvador for military purposes this fiscal year. In accordance with this bill, the puppet regime of Duarte will receive another $70 million in addition to the $126 million already allocated.

By constantly increasing the financial support for the pro-American regime, official Washington is making it understood that it intends to bring the internal problems of that country to a "military solution", which the White House understands as complete suppression of the national liberation movement. As Venceremos, the radio station of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front, reported on Wednesday, government forces are now pursuing a new broad scale punitive operation in Cabanas and San Vincente Departments. Hundreds of peaceful citizens, including women, old men, and children have been victims of artillery fire and air bombings.

President Reagan and representatives of his administration have stated on more than one occasion that they "will not allow the communist threat to spread" in Central America, which they consider their private domain. Confirmation of this great power position is also contained in the electoral platform submitted to the Republican Party convention in Dallas. The head of the White House intends to continue pursuing foreign policy from a position of strength, maintaining and expanding U.S. military presence in Central America, and supporting antipeople puppet regimes.

These sinister intentions are confirmed by facts. While "Reagan's coronation", his candidacy for the presidential elections by the Republican Party, was taking place in Dallas, regular U.S.-Honduran maneuvers code-named "Lempir" were starting in Honduras. A Pentagon representative announced that their aim was to increase the readiness of the U.S. and Honduran Armies to conduct operations "without prior notification". In the opinion of observers, these maneuvers are yet another stage in preparations for direct military incursion into Nicaragua. It is difficult to not agree with this opinion, particularly if one remembers that the U.S. "Green Berets", infamous for their bloody crimes in Vietnam, Panama, Guatemala, and other countries, are taking part in the "Lempir" maneuvers. On Wednesday, the PRENSA LATINA agency published an interview with a former CIA agent who said that "Reagan is planning to do the same with Nicaragua as he did with Grenada. He intends to blockade the republic from the sea and then carry out a powerful air landing in the vicinity of the capital's airport.

The pretext for the start of military operations will be a story about 'the need to protect the lives of Americans' or something of that sort."

URUGUAYAN CP OFFICIAL ON UPCOMING ELECTIONS

PY241220 Moscow RPP in Spanish 0130 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Excerpts] A demonstration was held recently in Montevideo to protest the arbitrary decisions of Uruguayan military officials. Let us listen to Eduardo Viera, member of the Uruguayan Communist Party Executive Board, on the struggle of the Uruguayan people.

[Begin recording] Uruguayan men and women, heroes of the fatherland who faced torture are recovering their freedom and have again taken up combat positions by filling the stands at the latest meeting sponsored by the Broad Front [FA]. Their participation clearly shows the just policies upheld by the FA in its all-out struggle for unity and negotiations, supported by the working class and people. What is the meaning of the agreement reached with the Armed Forces? It is basically a way out for the November elections without violating the FA principles because these are not just simply elections. With the people's participation, the upcoming elections must mark the end of the dictatorial regime, and the beginning of democracy in Uruguay. The elections also represent the release of a large number of political and union prisoners and the lifting of the proscription on the FA and its members.

The November elections and the political actions after March must democratize the republic as a first step toward complete democracy. The unity of the people, of all democratic forces, is necessary for this. This is why the position of the National Party is so negative, not only because it has taken smaller risks, but also because it has made itself appear as the unblemished party. Gonzalo Aguirre, who is now attacking the FA, actively participated in the negotiations at the Parque Hotel in behalf of the National Party. The National Party decided to leave the multiparty group, thereby dividing the opposition and creating fissures in the people's unity. Therefore, the National Party is not only obstructing the institutionalization process, but will also jeopardize the future democratization process if it does not change its position.

The agreement reached in the negotiations is not aimed at extending the dictatorship, as mistakenly stated by Ferreira Aldunate, but at ending it, which also depends on the National Party. Of course, there is no need for conciliation with the dictatorship. It is necessary to keep our eyes wide open to prevent a setback in the democratic process. It is especially important to mobilize the masses to achieve the complete democratization of political and union activity, obtain amnesty, improve wages and sources of work, and implement economic measures against the impositions of the IMF. A great deal depends on the November elections because they must mark the defeat of the dictatorship and the failure of the traitors. The people can count on the FA as the essential force to unhesitatingly struggle for democracy on the streets and in Congress to find solutions to the current crisis and economic dependency.

Apart from the arbitrary decisions of the regime, the Communists and their allies struggling for full legality will participate in the elections within the FA. Now more than ever, the working class, the progressive intellectuals, and the radicalized sectors have a great deal to say on this occasion to achieve freedom and move toward an advanced democracy. We are facing a very important moment that requires the utmost efforts of all workers and democrats. All Uruguayans are going to join efforts in this great battle, including those living outside the country so that they can return to fulfill their patriotic duty. [end recording]

PRAVDA LISTS CONTENTS OF KOMMUNIST'S 12TH ISSUE

PM261843 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 23 Aug 84 First Edition p 2

[Unattributed report: "Latest Issue of Journal"]

[Text] The 12th issue of the CPSU Central Committee theoretical and political journal KOMMUNIST has been published.

It carries an account of the CPSU Central Committee Resolution "On the Participation of Estonian SSR Leading Cadres in Political Education Work Among Working People."

It carries an editorial article entitled "People and Party United" (on the publication of a book of K.U. Chernenko's selected speeches and articles) and Comrade K.U. Chernenko's reply to the appeal by Irish public figure S. MacBride.

An article by O. Krivosheina entitled "To Lenin for Advice" is published under the rubric "Pages of a Great Life."

The section "The Cause of the Whole Party" is represented by articles by P. Sardachuk -- "Fostering Class Feeding and Political Vigilance," by K. Abdulov and S. Khamidov -- "Creative Force of the Leninist Friendship of the People," and by A. Oganov -- "Leninist Theory of Reflection and the Art of Socialist Realism."

Articles by V. Kadulin entitled "Intensification of the Economy Is the Strategic Task of the CPCZ" and by A. Zubkov entitled "The CEMA Countries' Energy Provision" are published under the rubric "From the Experience of the Socialist Community."

The section entitled "Realities of the Modern Era" carries articles by V. Orel -- "Anti-war Movement: Achievements and Prospects" and by Academician I. Mints -- "Hypocrisy Is an Inalienable Feature of Imperialism's Foreign Policy."

The journal publishes materials from the editorial mail and book reviews.

SUPREME COURT OFFICIAL ON JUSTIFIABLE DEFENSE

LD271309 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0910 GMT 27 Aug 84

["Man and the Law" program; talk by USSR Supreme Court Deputy Chairman Yevgeniy Alekseyevich Smolentsev]

[Excerpts] The course of further consolidation of socialist legality and law and order is being consistently implemented in our country.

I would like to particularly stress the need for more active involvement of the broad masses of the working people, representatives of the public, and individual citizens in the struggle against breaches of the law.

The legislation on necessary defense, whose practical application was recently discussed by a plenum of the USSR Supreme Court, has an important role to play. The need for this matter to be studied and debated at the plenum arose, on the one hand, from the unresolved issues which have piled up in the courts and certain shortcomings in the application of legislation, and on the other hand, from the working people's growing implacable opposition to law-breakers, and also the demands of the party Central Committee and the USSR Supreme Soviet for the unswerving implementation of consistent protection of the rights and legitimate interests of citizens taking part in rebuffing criminal attacks.

The point of the law on necessary defense consists of consolidating the right of citizens to take the most active means and measures to protect themselves or others, and when necessary, the interests of the state and society, from criminal encroachments. It is pointed out in Article 13 of the Criminal Law of the USSR and Union Republics that if actions taken by a person defending himself should come under definitions existing in criminal law, that is, if the criminal is injured but this occurs in a case of necessary defense, this is not a crime, on condition, of course, that the defensive measures taken were taken under attack when there was a need for them. The point of this is that attacks are sometimes made on honest people by criminals under the pretext of defense, and they then try to create the impression that they themselves were attacked. Such trickery will undoubtedly be exposed in court. As a rule, it is not difficult to distinguish an honest man from a criminal.

It should be stressed that not only representatives of the authorities and militiamen, and members of people's squads, controllers, public inspectors, fishery and game wardens, but also all citizens have conditions guaranteed under Soviet legislation for the successful foiling of any criminal encroachments. They are protected when attacked by hooligans, rogues, robbers, and rapists, and are not held responsible if, in opposing the criminal, they are forced to damage his health, to whatever extent, provided only that this is necessary to stop a crime.

Elaborating the existing article of the law, the USSR Supreme Court plenum drew the attention of the courts to the fact that our law of necessary defense is one of the important guarantees in implementing the constitutional rights and duties of citizens in defending the interests of the state and society, socialist property, law and order, and the life, health, honor, and dignity of Soviet people.

RSFSR DEPUTY MINISTER ON PHONE SERVICE FOR BAM

LD262303 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 26 Aug 84

[Text] The Baykal-Amur Mainline's [Bam] last 50 kilometers remain to be laid by the mainline builders. On the Chita launch section, which is about to be commissioned, those who lay ballast, build bridges and drainage pipes, and lay rails are making haste to fulfill their socialist pledges. It is proposed that the link-up will take place near the settlement of Kuanda, where large forces of construction workers are now concentrated. However, it has turned out that there is no conventional telephone link with this settlement; thus, the interaction of construction worker detachments, coordination of deliveries, and resolution of many pressing questions have been made more difficult. We asked Mikhail Abramovich (Yelizarov), RSFSR deputy communications minister, to tell us when this problem would be solved:

[Begin (Yelizarov) recording] Almost simultaneously with the BAM's construction, communication workers began to build a means of communication -- they have fulfilled much in the construction of trunk lines, and at the same time, they began to build local lines [otvetvleniye] running from the main lines of communication. Fifty-two local lines of cable and radio relay lines to provide reliable communication for construction workers and the population in these settlements were finished by the time the railwaymen finished their work, even earlier on some individual sections.

As for the construction of a local line to Kuanda, in 1983 builders began construction of a cable mainline from the trunkline. Construction was expected to take 2 years: 1983 and 1984.

At the moment, the cable line has been laid, work has been fulfilled on the assembly of exchange equipment, and literally in 10 to 12 days the settlement of Kuanda will get a reliable link to the country's network. In order to complete this work in the remaining few days, the RSFSR Communications Ministry is taking most urgent steps to bring this section of communications into operation ahead of schedule. It is necessary for us to transfer switchboard control equipment from Severobaykalks and Chita by helicopter, assemble it, and bring it into operation in 10 days. [end recording]

GRISHIN ADDRESSES MOSCOW TEACHERS CONFERENCE

LD271244 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1030 GMT 27 Aug 84

[Text] The new school year starts in a few days' time. It will be a special one in the life of Soviet general education schools because the reform of general education and vocational schools that was drawn up under the guidance of the party Central Committee and approved by the April CPSU Plenum is starting to be put into practice in the education system.

The related tasks that face the Moscow teaching collectives were discussed by participants in a conference of the education workers' aktiv which took place today in the Hall of Columns of the House of Unions. It was stressed at the conference that the forthcoming work would be carried out at a qualitatively new level, but that it was still based on the experience of the past. Education workers in the capital have done no small amount over the past few years to enhance the quality of the process of education and upbringing. Considerable experience has been accumulated in the labor education of schoolchildren. This work is being carried out in a purposeful and planned manner in Volgogradskiy, Zelenogradskiy, Krasnogvardeyskiy, Perovskiy, Pervomayskiy and a number of other rayons.

At the same time, it was noted at the conference that for many years in the city there had been no change in how young people were being drawn into the sphere of material production and consumer services. A little over half of the secondary school leavers go to work at enterprises in the capital every year, and out of this number only some go into manual jobs. Great attention was paid at the conference to the leading role of the teacher in the communist upbringing of the younger generation. There are almost 50,000 teachers working in Moscow schools.

A speech was delivered at the conference by Comrade Grishin, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Moscow Gorkom.

DOLGIKH, ARKHIPOV, BAYBAKOV AT MINERS DAY FETE

LD250103 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 24 Aug 84

[From the Vremya newscast]

[Excerpts] A festive meeting in Moscow today was devoted to the forthcoming Miners' Day holiday. [video shows members of the meeting's presidium sitting in several rows facing the auditorium; in the middle of the first row sits Dolgikh, with Arkhipov seated on his right and Bratchenko seated on his left; while in the row immediately behind, Baybakov is shown sitting in back of and one seat to Arkhipov's right]

In the meeting's Presidium were Comrade Dolgikh, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; Comrade Arkhipov, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; the leaders of a number of ministries and departments; production frontrankers; scientists; and representatives of the capital's public.

[Moscow Domestic Service at 1830 GMT on 24 August carries a shorter report on the Miners' Day meeting which mentions "head of a department in the CPSU Central Committee, Comrade Yastrebov" as also being seated in the presidium]

Delivering a report, Comrade Bratchenko, USSR minister of the coal industry, stressed that by mounting a shock-work watch in honor of the 50th anniversary of the Stakhanovite movement, the industry's frontrankers and innovators are multiplying the glorious traditions of the heroes of the first 5-year plans. Collective forms of socialist competition between teams, sections, and whole enterprises are getting stronger and are developing.

ZIMYANIN, SHAURO ATTEND CINEMA DAY CEREMONY

LD272112 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 27 Aug 84

[From the Vremya newscast]

[Text] A ceremonial meeting was held in Moscow today at the Oktyabr Cinema devoted to Soviet Cinema Day. Present at the meeting were Comrade Zimyanin, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; Comrade Shauro, head of the Culture Department of the CPSU Central Committee, figures of culture and representatives of the capital's public.

OFFICIAL APPOINTMENTS, RETIREMENTS REPORTED

PM230940 [Editorial Report] Moscow SOBRANIYE POSTANOVLENIY PRAVITELSTVA SSR (OTDEL PERVYY) in Russian in its No 20, 1984 Edition carries on pages 371-374 four USSR Council of Ministers decrees signed by N. Tikhonov, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, or G. Aliyev, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and M. Smirtyukov, administrator of affairs of the USSR Council of Ministers, to the following effect; A-Ya. Sukharev is relieved of his duties as USSR deputy minister of justice "in connection with his transfer to other work" (14 March 1984 -- Tikhonov and Smirtyukov); V.A. Bukato is appointed first deputy chairman of the USSR Bank for Financing Capital Investment [Stroybank] Board and relieved of his duties as deputy chairman of the USSR Stroybank board, while P.D. Podshivalenko is relieved of his duties as first deputy chairman of the USSR Stroybank Board in view of his "retirement on pension" (22 March 1984 -- Aliyev and Smirtyukov); Yu.G. Lyusev is appointed USSR first deputy minister of construction and relieved of his duties as USSR deputy minister of construction (23 March 1984 -- Tikhonov and Smirtyukov); and I.D. Voron is relieved of his duties as USSR deputy minister of geology "in connection with his transfer to other work" (26 March 1984 -- Aliyev and Smirtyukov).

NEW UZBEK PROCURATOR APPOINTMENT ANNOUNCED

WA221400 [Editorial Report] Tashkent PRAVDA VOSTOKA in Russian on 31 July carries on page 1 an 18-word announcement of the appointment to the post of procurator of the Uzbek SSR of Aleksey Vladimirovich Buturlin. Page 4 of the same issue carries a 17-word announcement under the rubric of "Khronika" indicating that former Uzbek SSR Procurator N.B. Burikhodzhayev has been relieved of his duties in that post in connection with his transfer to other work.

AFP: BONNER SENTENCED TO 5-YEARS INTERNAL EXILE

NC280844 Paris AFP in English 0843 GMT 28 Aug 84

[Text] Moscow, Aug 28 (AFP) -- Elena Bonner, the wife of Soviet dissident Andrey Sakharov, has been sentenced to five years' internal exile in Gorkiy on charges of violating Soviet law, a reliable Soviet source said today.

The source said Mrs. Bonner was sentenced at the close of a trial earlier this month in the city of Gorkiy, 400 kms (250 miles) east of Moscow, where her husband has been forced to live since 1980.

The source said Dr. Sakharov was still in Gorkiy, but it was not known whether the physicist was hospitalized or living at home.

AMUR FLOOD WATERS ABATING IN TRANS-BAYKAL REGION

LD232313 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2100 GMT 23 Aug 84

[Text] An antiflood commission set up at the Chita Oblispolkom has spent all day in the air, on board an AN-2 aircraft. It examined an area of 50,000 sq km that has suffered from strong cyclones sweeping into the Trans-Baykal region, where there has been heavy torrential rain for 3 days. The picture from the air is not a jolly one: ravines amid the grain fields, fields of crops and hay under water, roads washed away, bridges destroyed in places. The floods did not catch anyone unawares; where the waters threatened homes, families were taken to places of safety. Cattle, too, were taken out of the flooded areas.

Teams set up to repair roads and bridges are now at work. Suppliers and retail workers are taking all necessary measures to ensure that centers of population, outlying farm buildings, and shepherds' shelters cut off by the water continue to receive supplies. Trans-Baykal troops and border guards are helping out. The onslaught of the elements is abating now and the waters are subsiding.

SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA ON NORTH'S POPULATION PROBLEM

LD260700 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0300 GMT 26 Aug 84

[Text] SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA devotes an article to the problems of opening up the northern regions of our country. Sociologists have calculated that it is necessary to settle at least five or six workers there in order to ensure that one remains even for 3-5 years. Rosy plans and subjective notions of the romance of the north are one thing, but the harsh northern reality is quite different. When newcomers arrive at their new homes, they begin to compare not only climate and wages, but housing and living conditions, social and cultural services; the comparison is by no means always to the advantage of the north. For the person who has decided to give several years of his life to this harsh region, says SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA, we must create conditions not just for a temporary stay, but for a normal working life and normal leisure.

ENVIRONMENTAL BODY DISCUSSES POLLUTION PROBLEMS

PM280935 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 25 Aug 84 Moring Edition p 2

[TASS report: "Concern for Nature"]

[Text] A routine session of the USSR Council of Ministers Presidium Commission for Environmental Protection and the Rational Use of Natural Resources was held 23 August.

The commission examined drafts of the state plan for the economic and social development of the USSR in 1985 and the main directions for 1986-1990 and through the year 2000 under the section "Environmental Protection and the Rational Use of Natural Resources."

USSR ministries and departments and union republic councils of ministers have been instructed to further examine the environmental protection draft plans for 1985 with a view to improving their individual indicators.

The draft's main directions for 1986-1990 and through the year 2000 under the section "Environmental Protection and the Rational Use of Natural Resources" submitted by the USSR Gosplan stipulates higher rates compared with the current 5-year plan in increasing the volume of circulating water supply and standard purified water, construction of anti-erosion installations, the recovery of useful minerals during their extraction, and other indicators.

At the same time, the commission noted that a number of indicators, particularly for the introduction of sewage treatment capacity and the production of water-purification and dust-separation equipment, require essential additional work.

The question of urgent measures to eliminate pollution sources in ground water, protect water supply installations, and accelerate the implementation of other nature conservation measures in the region of the cities of Lisichansk, Severodonetsk, Rubezhnoye, and Slavyansk in the Ukrainian SSR was examined. The commission noted that the Ministry of Chemical Industry, whose departmental enterprises are the main sources of environmental pollution in that region, has not taken the proper measures to carry out the 1 April 1976 USSR Council of Ministers resolution to implement fundamental measures to prevent pollution of ground water and the Severskiy Donets River Basin. The USSR Ministry of Construction of Heavy Industry Enterprises is implementing construction of the necessary nature conservation projects in this region extremely slowly.

The resolution adopted on this question outlines specific measures to prevent the pollution of ground water and the Severskiy Donets River Basin in the Rubezhansko-Lisichanskiy industrial center region.

The commission also examined measures to ensure the protection and rational use of natural resources in the Lake Ladoga Basin and on preventing the pollution of reservoirs in the Lake Imandra Basin.

NEW TRAINING FOR OIL ENGINEERS IN AZERBAIJAN

LD280852 Moscow TASS in English 0735 GMT 28 Aug 84

[Text] Moscow August 28 TASS -- TASS news analyst Petr Lidin writes:

One more department is to open at the Azerbaijan Institute of Oil and Chemistry in the new academic year which begins this week.

It will train engineers specialising in the development of off-shore oil resources. Oil has been extracted from the off-shore oil fields in the Caspian Sea near the Azerbaijan coast for over 30 years. In the future, when more off-shore oil bearing areas are found, the need for specialists of this kind will become more acute. This is why the institute was given a sort of an order for training engineers with this kind of specialisation. Planning experts calculated that in five years off-shore oil workers with higher educatic would be needed at the new oil fields whose development is to be started in the Caspian Sea by that time.

This example, although rather simplified, shows correctly the way professionals are trained in the Soviet Union. The system of educational establishments of the country is closely bound with the national economy which specifies for the universities, institutes, colleges and vocational schools the number, type, and level of skill of the professionals who are to be trained by this or that term.

In other words, the training of professionals, the same as the national economy in general, is put on a planned basis in the USSR. This is why social-economic paradoxes, like the surplus of "white-collar workers" or the notorious "technological unemployment" which is one of the causes underlying social conflicts in the capitalist world, are ruled out in this country.

It is really a paradox that with a high level of unemployment in the capitalist world, there exist hundreds of thousands and even millions of vacancies which are not filled up because people of the needed qualification cannot be found for them. For instance, according to official statistics, in 1980 there were 354 vacancies per each 1,000 unemployed in West Germany, 500 in Japan and 786 in the U.S. This is the consequence of the spontaneous market system of organizing the economy which cannot bring the training of professionals into line with the need for them. The result is detrimental both for people and production.

This situation cannot emerge in the USSR which has a planned system of the training of professionals based on a sort of an "order for specialists". Of course, our system of the training of personnel has its defects, but they are of different nature. For instance, certain problems are brought about by the fact that not all the graduates of higher educational establishments take up the jobs assigned for them. It is a rule that the graduates must work for three years at the enterprise or organization where he is sent by a special commission working at their educational establishments which is in charge of the provision of employment for them. However, about 10 per cent of young professionals do not turn up where they are expected and needed for various reasons, including illness, family reasons or sometimes the lack of a feeling of discipline.

ARMENIAN OFFICIAL ON ICHEVAN-RAZDAN RAILWAY

GF270520 Yerevan SOVETAKAN AYASTAN in Armenian 8 Aug 84 p 1

[Interview with Grant Ayrapetyan, deputy chairman of the Armenian SSR Council of Ministers, by SOVETAKAN AYASTAN correspondent Karen Arakelyan -- date and place not given]

[Excerpts] [Arakelyan] Over the past 10 years there have been serious shifts in the direction of expanding the republic's railways, including the Ichevan-Razdan railway, one of our biggest construction projects. How will the new railway benefit the country? How will it contribute to the development of the national economy and what new and interesting dimensions will it open to the republic?

[Ayrapetyan] With the commissioning of the Ichevan-Razdan railway, Armenia will considerably expand the republic's freight transport capacity.

Thanks to the railway, there will be fewer forced stoppages of freight transport, increased turnover, reduced time lost, and more local and intercity passenger trains. The new railway will enable faster direct travel from Yerevan to Tbilisi and Baku, the capitals of the fraternal republics. This will happen because the length of the currently operating routes will be reduced by 50 and 80 kms, respectively. The railway will also contribute to the development of Dilizhan, Gankavan, Agavnadzor, Megradzor and other health zones of the republic.

[Arakelyan] The Armenian Communist Party and the Armenian SSR Council of Ministers have day-to-day responsibility for and direct supervision over the project. A commission to manage and supervise the construction of the railway has been established. How does this help the work?

[Ayrapetyan] Along the Ichevan-Diliehan-Floletovo section alone, the transfer of electricity and communications lines, and tree cutting and collection was carried out over 80 hectares of land. The construction of 20 large bridges, 4 tunnels with an overall length of 15.1 kms, 210 water pipes, and support walls 11 kms in length, as well as the cultivation of over 10 million cubic meters of mountainous soil, 90 percent of which was subject to blasting, for the 85-km railway created numerous difficulties.

In order to overcome such difficulties on a timely basis, make the correct decisions, strengthen the railway construction work, and promote responsibility on the part of the leaders, laborers, and employees of the construction organizations, the Armenian Communist Party Central Committee and the Armenian SSR Council of Ministers established a commission to manage and supervise the construction of the Ichevan-Razdan railway.

[Arakelyan] Within 1 1/2 years trains will be crossing the Ichevan-Razdan railway. By that time, approximately 20 republic organizations and the workers and employees participating in the construction will have completed their work. What new projects are foreseen for these organizations and their workers?

[Ayrapetyan] The work will not end with the commissioning of the Ichevan-Razdan railway. The republic's construction workers will have new and substantial tasks in this regard. First, there are plans to increase the overall agricultural and industrial output in the Lake Sevan region. Taking into account the increased volume of freight and the fact that transporting this freight by truck over mountainous roads is impossible, it has been proposed that a new railway be constructed during the 12th 5-Year Plan along the 40-km section from Gagarin Station in Sevan up to Kamo City.

At the moment, the question of linking Vartenis with Dzhermuk is also being reviewed. In order to construct this 65-km railway, we must overcome a number of difficulties arising from the mountainous geography of Armenia. This railway would not only contribute to the development of agriculture and industry in Syunyg Rayon, but would also allow to resolve the problem of railway chains in those rayons of the republic. The railway would also enable us to make more efficient use of huge reserves of local construction materials and to increase the annual production of "Dzhermuk" mineral water to 700 million bottles. This can be realized only through railway transport.

This is not all. There are more plans and tasks. Thus, following the commissioning of the Ichevan-Razdan railway, our construction workers will not sit with their arms folded. Great new works and large construction plans to make the republic flourish are awaiting them.

CORRECTION TO UZBEK PRODUCTION DEFICIENCY

The following corrections are to be made to the article, entitled Uzbek Party Discusses Production Deficiency, published on pp S 2-3 of the 27 Aug Soviet Union DAILY REPORT:

Page S 2, paragraph one, line three, reads:...it can achieve peak levels in many economic domains. However, the people... (supplying indistinct words) Paragraph three, line three, reads:...confirmed that the deficiencies pointed to during the 16th...(supplying indistinct word, changing word)

Same paragraph, line five, reads:...party committee plenum have not been removed... (supplying indistinct words)

BRIEFS

SUBBOTNIK PROCEEDS -- Moscow August 22 TASS -- The USSR Council of Ministers has adopted a resolution on the use of the proceeds of the communist subbotnik held on October 15 last year. On that day Soviet people voluntarily worked without pay at their workplaces, helped beautify their cities and villages. The bulk of the money -- a little less than a hundred million rubles -- will be used to build pre-school institutions, general education and vocational schools. [Excerpt] [Moscow TASS in English 2130 GMT 22 Aug 84 LD]

NEW OIL DEPOSIT IN TOMSK -- A new oil deposit, named Khvoynoye, has been entered upon the geological map of Tomsk Oblast. It is the 10th store of valuable raw material that has been surveyed by the workers of the Tomskneftegazgeologiya Association since the start of the current 5-year plan period. It is noteworthy that the new oil location is situated in the direct vicinity of the existing Aleksandrovskoye-Anzhero-Sudzhensk oil trunk pipeline and its development will not require large capital investments. [Text] [Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2230 GMT 22 Aug 84 LD]

AZERBAIJAN TANKER -- A new tanker has been added to the Caspian oil tanker fleet of Azerbaijan. The vessel has been named after Mesheli Azizbayev and equipped with the most up-to-date instruments. It has a pumping capacity of 7,000 tons. [Summary] [Baku Domestic Service in Azeri 1600 GMT 23 Aug 84 GF]

AZERBAIJAN OIL EXTRACTION -- The collectives of the Azizbayev oil fields number one and two have broadened socialist emulation related to increasing production. Since the beginning of the year, the collectives of oil field number one produced 4,000 tons of oil in addition to plan targets. Oil field number two has extracted more than 1,600 tons of oil. Extraction of oil has increased as a result of geological and technical measures applied in the oil fields. [Summary] [Baku Domestic Service in Azeri 1600 GMT 26 Aug 84 GF]

UKRAINIAN OFFICIALS DISCUSS AGRICULTURAL SUPPLIES

AU271315 Kiev Domestic Service in Ukrainian 0230 GMT 26 Aug 84

[Text] On 25 August, obkom secretaries, leaders of ministries and departments integrated in the agro-industrial complex, chiefs of oblast agro-industrial associations under the Ukrainian Ministry of the Fruit and Vegetable Industry, chief state inspectors for the purchase and quality of agricultural produce under the Ukrainian Ministry of Procurement, board chairmen of oblast consumer unions, and leaders of railroad boards met at a conference in the Ukrainain Communist Party Central Committee headquarters. They discussed measures to ensure that fruit, vegetables, and potatoes are harvested and transported on schedule, that the 1984 purchase plans are fulfilled, and that constant supplies to the population are organized.

It was noted that a great deal has been done in the republic to increase the production of vegetables and potatoes and to adopt industrial cultivation technologies. Progressive methods of receiving, storing, and marketing produce have been widely applied. There are real possibilities of fulfilling the state procurement plan and the targets for supplies to cities and industrial centers.

At the same time, it was noted that a number of farms, procurement and trade organizations in Donetsk, Zaporozhye, Chernovtsy, Cherkassy, and some other oblasts were failing to use all possibilities and reserves in carrying out this work, and were incurring substantial shortcomings.

The conference also discussed measures to increase the production and procurement of fruit and vegetables in 1985.

The conference was addressed by Mozgovoy, Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee Politburo member and secretary; Pogrebnyak, Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee Politburo candidate member and secretary; and Kolomiyets, Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee Politburo candidate member, Ukrainian Council of Ministers first deputy chairman, and chairman of the Commission of the Ukrainian Council of Ministers Presidium for Agro-Industrial Complex. Participating in the conference proceedings were Kovalenko and Stetsenko, department chiefs in the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee, and responsible functionaries of the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee, Council of Ministers, ministries, and departments.

BRIEFS

UKRAINE'S HARVEST FIGURES -- According to the Ukrainian Central Statistical Administration, by 20 August grain and bean crops, excluding corn, had been mowed in the Ukraine over an area exceeding 12,450,000 hectares. Windrows had been threshed on 97 out of every 100 hectares and corn had been gathered on nearly one-third of the total area. More than 70 percent of the planned areas has been prepared for winter crop sowing, including clean fallows. Seed cleaning and checking for the next seeding campaign are continuing all over the republic. Nearly 98 percent of the seeds have already undergone the necessary processes, and in Donetsk, Zakarpatskaya, and Zaporozhye Oblasts all seeds have been quality standardized. [Text] [Kiev Domestic Service in Ukrainian 0230 GMT 22 Aug 84 AU]

WORK CONTINUING ABOARD SALYUT-7/SOYUZ T-11

Further Research

LD241439 Moscow TASS in English 1414 GMT 24 Aug 84

[Text] Moscow August 24 TASS -- A TASS correspondent reports from the mission control centre:

Leonid Kizim, Vladimir Solovyev and Oleg Atkov are continuing the pre-planned research and experiments on board the manned complex "Salyut-7" -- "Soyuz T-11" -- "Progress-23".

In the past days, the crew were unloading the cargo spaceship, carrying out medical research and doing technological and geophysical experiements.

A cycle of research for the separation of fragments of DNA molecules, the carrier of genetic information of living organisms, has been completed in the electrophoretic "Genom" plant according to the cosmic biotechnology programme. The course of the experiments was registered by means of photography in ultraviolet light. Samples have been taken of nearly 700 DNA fractions for subsequent analysis in laboratory conditions.

Today the pumping of fuel into the tanks of the combined power unit was carried out in accordance with the schedule of refuelling of the station from a tank of the cargo ship.

In the course of the day the cosmonauts are transferring to the vacated compartment of the "Progress-23" spaceship the used equipment, carrying out preventive maintenance work on some onboard systems of the station, preparing scientific equipment for the upcoming research. It has been planned to examine the cardiovascular systems with the use of ultrasound "Echograph" equipment.

According to the reports of the crew and figures of telemetric information, the onboard systems of the station and both spaceships are functioning normally.

Leonid Kizim, Vladimir Solovyev and Oleg Atkov are in good health and feel well.

Progress-23 Flight Concluded

LD280655 Moscow TASS in English 0644 GMT 28 Aug 84

[Text] Moscow August 28 TASS -- The "Progress-23" automatic transport ship, which was placed on a near-earth orbit on August 14, 1984, has concluded its flight.

On commands from mission control centre today the transport ship was oriented in space and then its engine was switched on at 5 hours 28 minutes Moscow time. As a result of deceleration "Progress-23" moved to a descent trajectory, entered the dense layers of the atmosphere and ceased its existence.

Cosmonauts Leonid Kizim, Vladimir Solovyev and Oleg Atkov continue their planned work on board the piloted research complex "Salyut-7"-"Soyuz T-11". Today's programme provides for geophysical experiments, physical fitness exercises and a television reportage.

A regular medical checkup of the crew was conducted yesterday. The cosmonauts are healthy and feel well.

The programme of studies on the near-earth orbit is being fulfilled successfully.